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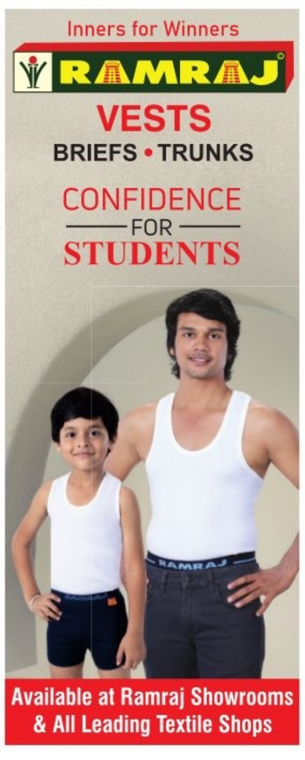
Covid cases creep up, experts say no worry

One case of the newly emerging COVID-19 variant NB.1.8.1 and four instances of LF.7 type were detected in India, according to INSACOG data. As of May 2025, the World Health Organization (WHO) classifies LF.7 and NB.1.8 subvariants as 'Variants being Monitored', not as 'Variants of Concern' or 'Variants of Interest'. But these are the variants that are reportedly driving the rise in Covid cases in China and parts of Asia. In India, the most common variant remains JN.1, comprising 53% of samples



PM chants Centre-state unity for Viksit goal

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Union ministers, chief ministers and administrators of various states and Union Territories at the NITI Aayog Governing Council meet in New Delhi on Saturday | PTI

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday urged all states to develop at least one tourist destination at par with global standards by providing the full range of facilities, including infrastructure, while addressing the Governing Council of NITI Aayog. Giving special emphasis to tourism, he said, 'One State, One Global Destination', would lead to the development of neighbouring towns as well as tourist places.

Chairing the 10th edition of the NITI Aayog's Governing Council meeting, Modi said if the Union government and states work together like Team India, no goal is impossible to achieve. He urged all chief ministers to make the spirit of solidarity trickle down to the district and village levels.

Noting that India collectively should work in a manner so as to bring change in the lives of common people, Modi said, "Only when people feel the change, it will transform into a national movement." Modi also sought to expedite the pace of development. "We have to increase the speed of development," he added.

"This is the century of technology and it should be integrated in every field from governance to agriculture," he said, adding: "Atmanirbhar Bharat and Vocal for Local are the strategies through which the vision of Viksit Bharat can be achieved. We should encourage it wholeheartedly."

The theme of this edition of the meeting was 'Viksit Rajya for Viksit Bharat@2047'. "Viksit Bharat is the goal of every Indian. When every state is Viksit, then Bharat will be Viksit. This is the aspiration of its 140 crore citizens," Modi said, adding that India is getting rapidly urbanised. The PM issued a call to work towards future ready cities. Growth, innovation and sustainability should be the engine for the development of our cities, he added.

Modi recommended reforms in public and private sectors for working women with focus on their ease of working.

Piped water to all houses in 1,000 days, says Siddu

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah on Saturday said in the next 1,000 days, Karnataka aims to guarantee 100% piped water to every household, establish Karnataka as South Asia's electric vehicle capital and achieve full digital and financial inclusion of women. In his speech, shared at the India @2047 event organised by NITI Aayog in New Delhi, he highlighted Karnataka's roadmap for 1,000 days and shared his views on Karnataka's role in nation-building. The CM did not attend the meeting.

He said the state aims to transform every district into a skill hub, double the area under organic farming and make Karnataka India's most-efficient service delivery state and advance positive discrimination for social equity, ensuring inclusion of every voice and identity. P4

84-year-old man with comorbidities dies, tests positive for Covid

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

AN 84-year-old man from Bengaluru, who tested positive for Covid-19, has died, but health officials clarified that his death was mainly due to a severe infection and not caused by the virus alone. The man was admitted to a private hospital with serious health complications on May 13 and died on May 17. His Covid test report, however, came back positive on Saturday.

Health officials told *TNIE* that he suffered from septic shock and multi-organ dysfunction — a life-threatening condition where an infection causes several organs to fail. He also had pneumonia in both lungs and multiple pre-existing health problems. Officials confirmed that he had no recent travel history. "The patient had several comorbidities and died from complications related to a severe infection. Covid was present, but it cannot be considered the main cause of death," a senior health department official said. "We are fully prepared and all necessary medical resources are in place"

As of Saturday, Karnataka reported 38 Covid cases, a rise of three compared to Friday. Of these, 32 cases were from Bengaluru alone. A case each was reported from Bengaluru Rural, Dakshina Kannada, Vijayanagara, and Ballari, and two from Mysuru. P3

CM Siddaramaiah sports a mask in the wake of increasing Covid cases, in Mysuru, on Saturday | UDAYASHANKAR S

CURBS ON MEDIA AT THE PENTAGON

US defense secretary issues restrictions on media, including ban from wide swaths of Pentagon without govt escort | P9

EXPRESS READ

Shubman Gill to lead Test team for Eng tour

Mumbai: Batting star Shubman Gill has been handed India's Test leadership for next month's tour of England. He will have Rishabh Pant as his deputy for the series that will begin in Leeds on June 20 | P11

Felt like a monkey, says Miss England

Hyderabad: Miss England 2024, Milla Maggie, who left the 72nd edition of Miss World on May 16 citing "personal reasons", has claimed in the tabloid The Sun that "we had to sit like performing monkeys" | P5

Monsoon arrives in Kerala 8 days ahead of schedule

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ T'puram

TWO people died in Kannur while widespread damage was reported from across the state, especially in the northern districts, as the Southwest monsoon made an early onset over Kerala on Saturday. Bayas Oroyana, a Jharkhand native, died in a landslide while working on the NH 66. Earlier in the day, another landslide claimed the life of Ratheesh, 52, at Azhiyur in Kannur.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has sounded red alert for Malapppuram, Kozhikode, Wayanad, Kannur and Kasaragod on Sunday. On Monday, all districts, barring Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam and Alappuzha, will be placed under red alert.

This marks the earliest onset of the Southwest monsoon in Kerala in the last 16 years. The IMD said this year's onset was eight days ahead of the normal schedule of June 1, and was the earliest after 2009, when it set in on May 23.

MONSOON HITS K'TAKA, IT'S 10 DAYS EARLY

Bengaluru: For the first time in more than one-and-a-half decades, the southwest monsoon officially entered Karnataka on Saturday, nearly 10 days ahead of schedule, which is normally the first week of June. The Met has forecast heavy to very heavy rain for the next seven days | P5

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Ritu: Vasantha • Masa: Vaishaka • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Thrayodasi 1.35 pm
Nakshatra: Ashwini 9.08 am • Moon in Vrishabha Rashi • Rahukaala: 04:30 pm to 06:00 pm
Gulikakala: 03:00 pm to 04:30 pm • Yamaganda: 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm

WEATHER
MIN 21°C | MAX 26°C
FORECAST
Isolated tstorms. Overcast

Sunrise 05.52 am
Sunset 06.40 pm
Moonrise 03.53 am
Moonset 04.53 pm

TREADING THE GREEN PATH

PRAJNA GR @ Madikeri

A stroll on a quaint street near Government Junior College in Madikeri introduces one to a beautification project where flower pots hang on retaining walls of public spaces. In between the flower pots, dustbins are also placed for public use. This beautification project was not taken up by the City Municipal Council or any other government body; it is the effort of an individual from Delhi who moved into the city two years ago in search of clean air.

Piyush Agarwal has grand plans to make Madikeri one of the quaintest cities to live in. Piyush, who started off on a road trip across India in search of a place with clean and pure air to lead a retired life, says, "Madikeri fit the bill the best for my retired life." So, what made him undertake the journey from Delhi to Madikeri? "I was in search of a place with low Air Quality Index (AQI) which I wanted to make my home," he says.

The businessman and entrepreneur developed bouts of cough due to high air pollution in Delhi. "I had difficulty breathing and developed cough bouts. Covid happened and my business suffered a bit. That is when I decided that Delhi was not the place I wanted to live in, and it was time for me to get out," he shares.

Road trip across 27 states

He set off on a road trip across India, travelling from East coast to West coast, the AQI meter as his travel buddy. He checked the air quality in every place he visited. Ooty, Chikkamagaluru, Goa, Kerala, Kanyakumari – Piyush travelled the length and breadth of India and covered 27 of 29 states; this was in 2022.

"I had a few parameters in mind. While air quality was the priority, the other parameters included the kind of people, not-so-large city, greenery... And Madikeri fit the bill the best," he explains. His travel experience also revealed that the majority of the country is polluted, as air quality level across several regions is above 50. "Madikeri had an AQI level of 16, and became my ideal place to settle down for a retired life. Kodagu is among the best districts and nowhere in the country can you find such forests with abundant greenery. Even coffee cultivation is done using shade trees," he opines.

Piyush rented out a house and has been a resident for two years. He wants Madikeri to become one of the most beautiful cities in the country and his efforts can be seen in the beautification and cleanliness projects he has undertaken silently. During his first year, Piyush caught the attention of the City Municipality Council after he was spotted picking up litter and clearing garbage in his neighbourhood, equipped with a 'litter picker' stick and gunny bag.

Impressed, then CMC president Anita Poovaiah invited Piyush to her office and appreciated his efforts. "I am 65 years old and cannot bend down to pick up litter. I bought the 'litter picker' stick online and have a few collections of these sticks. Every Indian wants to keep their house clean, but when it comes to their surroundings, they are not bothered, this is a very Indian sentiment. The road and neighbourhood are an extension of my house and I often clean my surroundings. This introduced me to CMC councillors and now, I have started an initiative to install public dustbins across the city," he says.

During his chats with CMC officials, Piyush got permission to install dustbins (pinned to retaining walls of public spaces) across several wards in the city. Similarly, he put up dustbins in busy public spaces, including tourist spots and outside schools. "I approached the youth empowerment department for permission to install dustbins across the District Ground premises," he says.

He got the nod, and installed over 15 dustbins in the grounds, but they were all stolen within 48 hours. "I don't want to fix the dustbins permanently as it would be difficult for civic workers to clear them. Cleaning dustbins must be a simple process. However, of hundreds of dustbins installed across wards, over 50 per cent were stolen. This is when I realized that people of Madikeri don't want dustbins," he points out. Piyush faced several hurdles in the cleanliness project, but this did not stop him from beautifying the city.

After the dustbin project, he undertook beautification work by installing flower pots across the city limits. Flower pots with self-watering technology (originally designed by him) are lined up across city limits.

'Proud to live in Madikeri'

Piyush has more such initiatives in mind. He aims to install a flower pot and dustbin on all lampposts. However, getting permission, especially from the CESC department, remains a Herculean task. "Imagine if every lamppost was lined with a flower pot and a dustbin. Madikeri will become one among the cleanest cities in the country, and I would be proud to live here. I don't want any government support and I am ready to invest completely on my own. However, CESC denied permission for it and there is nothing I can do to change this," he says, disappointed.

Nevertheless, Piyush continues to involve himself in environment-friendly beautification projects. He has planted over 350 varieties of trees across his neighbour's private estate and invented eco-friendly measures to water these saplings. "I sought permission from one of my neighbours to plant saplings in his estate. I told him I don't want any support or returns, but only oxygen from these saplings. I collected 10,000 plastic water bottles from restaurants and hotels. During monsoons, I collected water in these bottles and these bottles continue to water the self-watering flower pots and saplings I have planted so far," he explains. His routine includes cleaning the neighbourhood of trash, taking a stroll across the estate to take care of his saplings, cycling and golf. While he visits the estate during the morning hours, he ensures to put his food in a solar cooker and keep it under the sun. "By the time I am back, I know my food is cooked and this is my routine during summer days," he shares.

While the initiative undertaken by Piyush is not known to the majority in the city, people who know him are inspired by his efforts. "When I was growing up, pollution was not among the biggest concerns. The environment then was pristine and we could swim in any stream as the water was clean. I have seen nature deteriorate in my lifetime and river Jamuna in Delhi is proof of that deterioration. Now, I do my bit to keep nature clean," he concludes. He also hopes to garner support from people's representatives as he is ready to fund the beautification project, provided he has all permissions in hand.

DELHI RESIDENT IN SEARCH OF PURE AIR MAKES MADIKERI HIS HOME, BEAUTIFIES NEIGHBOURHOODS

Armed with his 'litter picker', Piyush Agarwal picks up trash in his neighbourhood in Madikeri. He aims to beautify every lamppost in the city with a flower pot and a dustbin | EXPRESS

Tunnel Road vision takes shape, tenders for 1st phase soon: DCM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

TENDERS for the first phase of Tunnel Road will be floated soon, said Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar. "The Cabinet has given its nod for the construction of Tunnel Road in two phases. Tenders will be called for the construction of the first phase soon", said Shivakumar.

He was speaking to media after holding a high-level meeting with the officials on Saturday regarding the Tunnel Road in Bengaluru and the conduct of Cauvery Aarti at KRS in Mandya. "A meeting was held with Greater Bangalore Authority (GBA) officials, DGP of the Police Department, IGP and Traffic Police Department officials before calling tenders for this project with the aim of avoiding traffic congestion at the entry and exit points of the Tunnel Road in Bengaluru," he said.

"No exit will be allowed anywhere within one km of the Vidhan Soudha. Traffic jams happen everywhere here. So I have instructed the police officers to check this," he said.

"It has been decided to construct a 114-km elevated corridor in Bengaluru, and the opinion of the traffic police officers has been sought regarding this project," he said.

DCM DK Shivakumar speaks to the media in Bengaluru on Saturday | EXPRESS

Shivakumar also spoke about garbage management and said, "We have decided to call a total of 33 packages for garbage disposal in Bengaluru, one for each of the big constituencies. This project, worth about Rs 4,000 crore, was approved in the recent cabinet meeting. Tenders are being called for a period of seven years," he said.

On Cauvery Aarthi at Mandya, he said, "The Cauvery Aarti will be a symbol of the culture and heritage of our state. The rituals of Kodagu, Malenadu, Karavali, and Bengaluru regions and the methods of this program will be formulated including the religious mutts of this region. "I am thinking that this programme should be held for three days of the weekend. Along with the puja, a cultural programme will be held. Rs 92 crore has been allocated in the Cauvery Neeravari Nigama for this," he said.

"In addition to this, the Energy Department, Public Works, Tourism, Religious Endowments Department, Kannada and Culture Department will also join hands in this programme. The design of a 10,000-seat gallery is also ready for public viewing of this programme. A song for the aarti will be composed," he said.

"This programme will be a South Indian program. The states of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Puducherry, where the Cauvery River flows, will be allowed to participate in this programme. Almost all the blueprints are ready. Information will be given to the public after these are completed," he said.

"The stage for this programme will be built on flowing water. Tenders will be called soon for the construction of this stage," he said.

CBSE students dominate KCET results

Boys take top ranks in all streams

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

CBSE students showed a strong performance while the overall eligibility for various professional courses registered a noticeable dip in the Karnataka Common Entrance Test (KCET)-2025 results announced by the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) on Saturday.

Of the total 3,11,991 candidates who appeared this year, more than 2.75 lakh passed, bringing the total pass percentage to 88.36.

Among the top 10 rank holders in the engineering stream, seven were from CBSE schools. Bhavesh Jayanthi from Bengaluru secured the first rank in engineering and also emerged as the second topper in Pharma-D. The second and third ranks were bagged by Satwik B Biradar and Dhinesh Gowthami Shankar Arunachalam, respectively, both from Bengaluru schools.

Despite the high-ranking performances, this year saw a decline in the number of students eligible for admissions across most courses. For engineering courses, 2,62,195 students qualified this year, compared to 2.75 lakh last year. A similar dip was observed in other streams -- in Bachelor of Naturopathy and Yogic Sciences (BNYS), 1,98,679 became eligible this year against 2.19 lakh in 2024 while in BSc (Hons) Agriculture, 2,14,588 were eligible in 2025 compared to 2.15 lakh in 2024.

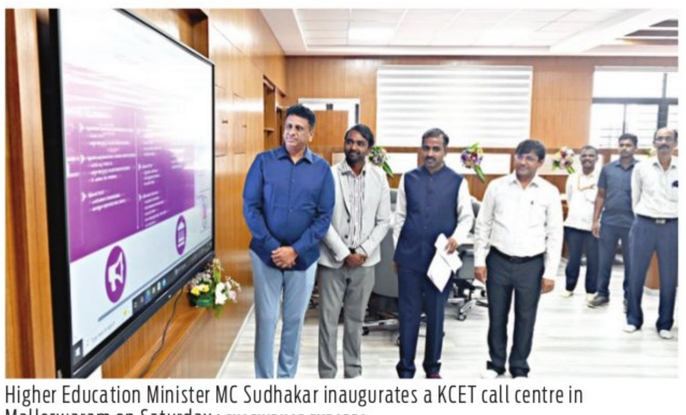
Higher Education Minister Dr MC Sudhakar, who released the results, attributed the overall drop in eligibility to the lower pass percentage among 2nd PUC science students this year. "This naturally reflects in the number of students qualifying for KCET-based admissions," he added.

Sudhakar also clarified that grace marks were awarded in limited instances. "One grace mark has been awarded in Physics, while in Biology, two answers were accepted for one question. Similarly, in Chemistry, two different answers were considered correct for two separate questions," he said while addressing the media.

KEA officials said the counselling will begin soon and details will be uploaded on KEA website.

Meanwhile, Suchivrat Kulkarni from Bidar, who was barred from writing the CET Mathematics exam after being asked to remove his janivara (sacred thread), was awarded a CET rank of 2.06 lakh in the engineering stream based on his 2nd PUC average and his Physics score — the only CET paper he appeared for," Sudhakar said.

The minister mentioned that the student was also given a second chance to appear for the exam, but his mother requested KEA to consider his 2nd PUC average and Physics score as Kulkarni was not in the state to appear for the exam.



Higher Education Minister MC Sudhakar inaugurates a KCET call centre in Malleswaram on Saturday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

BOYS bagged the top ranks across all major streams in the Karnataka Common Entrance Test (KCET)-2025. From engineering and BSc agriculture to veterinary, BNYS, nursing and pharma, the top 10 ranks were dominated by male students.

Bhavesh Jayanthi, a student of Chaitanya Techno School in Bengaluru, topped the engineering stream with a score of 99.06%. A native of Hyderabad, Bhavesh said his preparation focused on identifying and correcting mistakes during mock tests. "After every test, I would sit down and figure out where I went wrong. That helped more than just revising answers," he said. He hopes to join an IIT and pursue Computer Science Engineering (CSE), driven by his interest in coding.

Satwik B Biradar from Sri Chaitanya Techno School stood second in engineering with 98.83% and had also scored 482 in the 2nd PUC exam. Originally from Bagalkot, Satwik said his performance improved significantly in the last 20 days through intensive mock test practice. "Some papers were easier than last year, but overall, the difficulty was similar. Practising daily helped me stay on track," he said. Satwik is also aiming for a CSE seat, with a keen interest in artificial intelligence and its application.

Harishraj DV of E Techno School, Bengaluru, topped veterinary, BNYS and nursing. He said KCET was a backup plan, and his goal is to study MBBS. "I want to become a doctor and am waiting for the NEET results," he said. Akshay M Hedge from Alva's PU College, Moodbidri, secured the top rank in BSc agriculture with a score of 98.08%.

BBMP ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF PRAHLAD APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF B-SMILE

WITH the government announcing the Special Purpose Vehicle for Bengaluru Infrastructure Project and now Greater Bengaluru Authority in place, the state government issued an order appointing BS Prahlad, who was the Chief Engineer of the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), as the Director (Technical) of the Bangalore Smart Infrastructure Limited (B-SMILE) on a full-time basis. As per the state government's procedures, Prahlad's appointment has come into effect with immediate effect (Saturday). The government has clarified in the order that the post of Director in B-SMILE is equivalent to the post of Chief Engineer in the BBMP. With the current Greater Bangalore Authority (GBA) coming into force, it is proposed to divide the BBMP within the next four months. The government has ordered to merge the post of Chief Engineer of BBMP with the post of Director (Technical) of B-SMILE on a full-time basis. "Rs 27,000 crore worth Outer Ring Road project, Tunnel Road Poject worth over Rs 40,000 crores will be looked after by the SPV and Prahalad in the capacity as Director of B-SMILE will do macro management," said a source adding the government has already announced a grant of Rs 7,000 for the SPV. ENS

BBMP SPLIT TO BE COMPLETED BEFORE SEPT 15: DCM

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar said the process of splitting the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) will be completed by September 15. He was speaking after holding a high-level meeting related to the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) on Saturday. He said he will hold discussions with city MLAs, including leaders from opposition parties, on the number of corporations that needs to carved out and a proposal will be submitted to the cabinet for final decision. ENS

Surya's 15-point plan to address city's infra, mobility woes

Bengaluru: Bengaluru South BJP MP Tejasvi Surya has come up with a comprehensive 15-point plan aimed at addressing Bengaluru's worsening infrastructure, mobility, and governance challenges. In a letter to Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on May 24, the MP stated that he could not take part in the meeting of MPs and MLAs from Bengaluru on urgent issues concerning the city's infrastructure as he is currently part of an all-party delegation visiting the US to convey India's message against terrorism after the Pahalgam terror attack and 'Operation Sindoor'. Surya offered short-term and medium-term solutions to tackle the city's problems. He recommended a 60-day priority plan to restore ward-wise footpaths and drains, scientific remapping of stormwater drains, and congestion relief on 12 high-traffic corridors. He favoured formation of a war-room for real-time coordination of roadwork and debris clearance. In his 60-180-day medium-term plan, the MP stressed the need for expansion of Metro services with fast-tracked execution and weekly reviews. He referred to the addition of 4,500 electric buses under the PM-eBus Sewa Scheme to enhance last-mile connectivity. The MP suggested measures such as phasing out old vehicles, implementing staggered institutional timings, and enforcing strict lane discipline to ease traffic congestion in the city. He proposed the formation of 'Bengaluru 2050 Vision Group', a dedicated think-tank covering urban mobility, water management, heritage, environment, and design. This group could craft a long-term vision, 'Bengaluru 2050', to focus on sustainable growth, ecological protection, and integrated urban planning beyond short-term solutions. Among structural reforms, Surya called for operationalisation of BMLTA with a full-time managing director and leadership appointments at K-RIDE and BMRCL to strengthen Bengaluru's public transport systems. He called for shifting focus from expensive road projects to public transit expansion. ENS

The Bagalgunte police have registered an FIR against 13 employees after 64 metres of electric cable, worth over Rs 1 lakh, was stolen from the Namma Metro track between Nagasandra and Dasarahalli. According to the police, the complaint was filed a week ago by an assistant security officer, who has suspected staff involvement

Covid cases rise, 32 reported in B'luru alone

Numbers go up to 38 in state; docs say people must wear masks in crowded places as new variants drive fresh cases

RISHITA KHANNA @Bengaluru

KARNATAKA has recorded 38 Covid-19 cases so far, 32 of them in Bengaluru, prompting health officials to issue an advisory on Friday. While the numbers mark a slow uptick, doctors say Covid is now part of the regular cycle of viral infections and is likely to behave like seasonal flu, with periodic rises and dips — making panic unnecessary.

Doctors also suggest masking up in crowded places as a sensible preventive step to avoid a larger spread.

Covid-19 cases are rising again primarily due to the emergence of new SARS-CoV-2 variants with mutations in the spike protein, which can increase transmissibility and partially evade immune protection. Over time, the immunity developed from vaccines or prior infections wanes, especially without updated booster doses, making individuals more susceptible to reinfection.

Environmental factors, seasonal changes, and increased indoor gatherings also contribute to higher transmission rates. Dr Divya Joshi, Consultant – Infectious Diseases, at Fortis Hospital, said that the rise in cases is due to increased testing, and it's important to understand that Covid, like many other viruses, follows a seasonal pattern. "Now that the virus has become part of our environment, we can expect its activity to fluctuate, much like influenza or metapneumovirus, with periodic spikes and drops," she said. "The reassuring part is that the symptoms are generally milder than in the early stages of the pandemic. Covid has now begun to behave like a typical seasonal virus, and while monitoring remains important, there is no cause for alarm," Joshi added.

Dr Mohammed Suhail K, Consultant, Internal Medicine, at Ramaiah Medical Hospital, explained that people should be aware that Covid-19 symptoms are not limited to just cough, fever, or sputum production. "Many patients may also experience diarrhea, fatigue, headaches, muscle aches, or soreness, in addition to common symptoms from earlier Covid strains, such as loss of taste and smell. It's important to recognise that symptoms like nasal congestion, sore throat, diarrhea, chills, and even mild headaches can all be early signs of Covid," he added. Suhail said, "New variants continue to emerge, and while we need not panic, we must remain cautious and prepared. People should also keep track of their immunity levels to ensure adequate protection against evolving variants.

Doctors say that some patients may present with only a mild sore throat, while others may develop more severe symptoms like high fever, extreme fatigue, and dehydration and that gastrointestinal symptoms such as diarrhea or loose stools should also not be ignored.

Testing must for patients with SARI

Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao said that the Covid Technical Committee met on Friday to review the situation. "We are monitoring cases closely and coordinating with the central government. So far, the positive cases have shown only mild symptoms, with no serious complications reported," Rao said. The Health Department has made Covid testing mandatory for patients with respiratory distress and Severe Acute Respiratory Infection. Hospitals are instructed to collect samples and conduct tests for patients with respiratory and cardiac conditions. The state has also advised keeping sufficient test kits available for at least a month, with testing to be done only when necessary.

B'gavi pregnant woman tests Covid positive, precautionary measures taken, says DHO

Belagavi: Health department authorities have confirmed that a new Covid case has been reported from Yellur village of Belagavi taluk. The patient, a 25-year-old pregnant woman, tested positive for Covid and is undergoing treatment at KLE's Charitable Hospital on Yellur Road. Belagavi District Health Officer Dr Ishwar Gadad said, "The 5-month pregnant woman experienced symptoms such as fever and fatigue on May 11 and was admitted to KLE Charitable Hospital in Yellur. As her condition deteriorated, she was shifted to a private facility of KLE Hospital on May 19, where Covid has been confirmed through testing. She is now under close medical supervision. Earlier, she was suffering from hyperthyroidism."

PIC: VINOD KUMAR T

AUDIO LEAK CASE

CAT stays notice issued by chief secy to ADGP Alok Kumar

YATHIRAJU @Bengaluru

THE Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) has stayed a notice issued by the chief secretary to senior IPS officer Alok Kumar, who is the additional director general of police, proposing a departmental inquiry against him into the 2019 telephone audio leak case.

Kumar contended that the departmental inquiry was already dropped as per the reply dated May 6, 2024, given by the state government under the Right to Information Act, and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) too has also filed a 'B' (closure) report in the case which conclusively established that there was no evidence against him into the alleged audio leak.

He alleged that the notice, dated May 9, 2025, was issued under Rule 8(4) of All India Services (Discipline & Appeals) Rules, 1969, just days before his name was cleared by the Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) for promotion to the director general of police post. The notice was after the director general and inspector general of police took his profile on April 23, 2025 to forward it to the Union Public Service Commission to consider him for the post of DG&IGP, he said.

Kumar's counsel submitted before the CAT that a previous departmental inquiry was initiated on the same charges and finally no action was taken. He also drew attention to the order dated February 13, 2024, where the ACMM, Bengaluru, designated for hearing CBI cases, accepted the closure report.

The notice has been issued because the applicant is due for consideration for promotion with effect from May 21, he argued, pointing out that the notice was issued with a malafide intention to create an artificial hurdle for his promotion.

CAT Judicial Member BK Srivastava however, noted that the matter should be heard by a division bench which is not available at present.

It is to be ordered that the notification will be treated as stayed till June 10, the next date of hearing.

The interim relief will be possible before the division bench on the next date, he said in the order passed recently while issuing notice to all the respondents including the chief secretary.

Village-level disaster panels vital, says Guv

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

GOVERNOR Thaawarchand Gehlot on Saturday stressed the need for grassroots participation in disaster preparedness, urging the formation of disaster management committees at the village level.

Speaking at the World Disaster Management Conference at the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR), he highlighted that local communities play a crucial role in reducing the impact of disasters.

"The local community is the backbone of disaster management. Empowering, training and making people aware at the grassroots level can significantly reduce the impact of disasters," the governor said. He called for better training and resource support for these committees and advocated introducing disaster awareness training from the school level itself.

The conference, held under the theme -- Technology for Climate and Disaster Resilience -- also highlighted the role of technology in disaster management. Gehlot pointed out that tools like AI, big data, satellite imaging, GIS mapping, drones and mobile alerts are transforming how disasters are detected, managed and mitigated.

He stressed the importance of incorporating disaster resilience into national development policies and praised India's leadership under Prime Minister Narendra Modi for advancing disaster preparedness.

He also lauded the upcoming World Disaster Management Conference scheduled in Uttarakhand this November. The event was attended by Prof Durgesh Pant, Director General of the Uttarakhand Council of Science and Technology, and Prof Umesh Waghmare of JNCASR.

2,800 citizens pledge not to pay SWM user fee

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

BENGALURU Navanirmana Party has claimed that over 2,800 people across the city have expressed solidarity with them in objecting to BBMP in its campaign titled #IWontPay, against new solid waste management user fee on citizens who neither generate the waste nor receive BBMP's services.

"This is exploitation. How can BBMP collect a fee without even knowing who should pay and who shouldn't? said Srikanth Narasimhan, founder of BNP.

He said the 'bulk-waste generator' exemption was introduced around April 20, 2025, after backlash from citizens. By this time, thousands of residents who live in apartments classified as bulk-waste generators, had already paid the SWM fee. Many have made double payment, one to private vendors, and another to BBMP for doing nothing.

Smaller apartment complexes (under 100 units) that use empanelled vendors are neither recognized as bulk generators nor given clarity, that again leads to double billing. Vacant plot owners have also been charged SWM fee despite producing no waste. "How can BBMP justify billing people for a service it doesn't provide? There's no accountability, no communication, not even basic logic," said Poongothai Paramasivan, Governing Council member of BNP. She added that without an elected BBMP Council, the government is unilaterally imposing new charges like parking fees and garbage user fees. BNP has submitted formal letters to Deputy CM DK Shivakumar, BBMP Chief Commissioner Maheshwar Rao, and Revenue Special Commissioner Munish Moudgil, demanding withdrawal of the SWM user fee, and full refund or adjustment of wrongly collected fees for all who have paid this year.

Mobiles, knives, cash found in B'luru prison

Bengaluru: Southeast police raided the Bengaluru Central Prison at Parappana Agrahara on Friday morning and found mobile phones, chargers, and Rs 16,000 in cash in the barracks of four convicts. On a tip-off, a police team raided the prison premises around 7.30 am. During the raid, four knives and an electric induction stove were also found in the barracks. A case has been registered at Parappana Agrahara police station against some prison officers and staff, Karnataka State Industrial Security Force personnel and the four convicts under Section 42 of the Prison Act.

Freak accident on airport road flyover kills driver

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

IN a freak accident involving a 16-wheel truck transporting boulders, a garbage truck and a cab on the International Airport Road in the early hours of Saturday, the driver of the garbage truck died while two others sustained injuries.

The deceased was identified as Faizan Ahmed (25), a native of Bihar. The injured are identified as Margoob Reja (23), the garbage truck cleaner and Harish, the driver of the truck transporting the boulders.

The incident happened on the Kodigehalli flyover on the International Airport Road near Brigade Magnum around 1.40 am. All the three vehicles were coming towards the city from the airport side.

The driver of the garbage truck had parked the vehicle on the right side of the flyover due to mechanical failure. He along with the cleaner were repairing the truck, when the driver of the boulder-laden truck who was reportedly overspeeding hit the garbage truck from behind. After he swerved the truck to the left, he hit the car that was going on the left side. The truck came to a halt after hitting the side wall of the flyover. In the impact the garbage truck while falling on to a side fell on its driver and cleaner.

Ahmed, who was shifted to a nearby private hospital, was declared dead on arrival.

Luckily the boulders had not fallen off the truck. The yellow board cab that was going to Sarjapura with customers from the airport was also damaged in the accident. Neither the cab driver nor the customers sustained injuries in the mishap. The front portion of the cab has been completely damaged.

"The cab driver SJ Sunil has filed a police complaint. Reja is undergoing treatment in Victoria Hospital while Harish is at a hospital in Yelahanka. The traffic had to be diverted under the flyover till all the vehicles were cleared," said an officer.

Vasavi Vidya Niketan PU college announces 100% results

Bengaluru: Vasavi Vidya Niketan PU College announced a 100 per cent results in the recent examinations, attributing the achievement to the hard work and dedication of its lecturers. In recognition of their efforts, the faculty was honoured by Dr C N Manjunath, Bangalore Rural MP, the former Director of Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences. The event also featured the launch of 'The Journey', a book authored by alumna Sharmila G N.
The college extended its heartfelt congratulations to the students and alumni, wishing them success in their future endeavours.

Banned African catfish spoils restoration plans of 45-acre Vibhutipura Lake

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE restoration of the 45-acre Vibhutipura Lake in Mahadevpura Zone has suffered a huge setback with African Catfish taking over the water body in the wake of pre-monsoon rains.

The walkers and lake activists said the lake and buffer zone have been already encroached. Now with the rains, dirty water has flooded the lake and banned African Catfish are cavorting in the lake, they pointed out.

Ravi Kumar, a regular walker, said,"Ten days ago when the water level was low in the lake, these fish were seen struggling in small patches, but after rains, they have spread across the water body."

Sathyavani Sridhar, who took up the issue of the lake's poor management and encroachment with Lokayukta last year, said, "Till the beginning of April, the officials were removing the silt. Heavy rains have flooded the entire lake with dirty water. Now it will be difficult to remove these deadly fish."

Vibhutipura Lake| EXPRESS

Noted Environmentalist Dr Yellappa Reddy said these are dangerous species and will not allow the local species to thrive. The banned African Catfishes are voracious eaters.

"This fish species will spoil the lake aqua system. Local fish will be eaten by this catfish and this will impact migratory birds. If the birds did not find the fish, they would look for a new habitat," he said. This kind of catfish is sold in Mumbai by local fishermen and if it is alive, it fetches more revenue, he added.

Executive Engineer, Lakes, BBMP, Nithya J, said, "We are not aware of African catfish in Vibhutipura Lake. This may have entered through stormwater drains. I will take up the issue with the fisheries department," she said.

2nd YEAR FOND REMEMBRANCE

Sri S. CHENNARAYA REDDY,
B.A., B.L., ADVOCATE,
"Today and every day you are in our thoughts and in our hearts. We miss you very much"
~Inserted by ~
C.Shankar Reddy, C.Mukund,
C.Sudha, C.Lakshmi & Family Members
Mobile: 98453 35106

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that my Client has negotiated to purchase the below mentioned Schedule Property and accordingly my Client has entered into Agreement of Sale from its Owners **1) SMT DHAKSHAYINI** W/o Late Sri Seebaiah, Aged about 52 years, **2) kum. RAMYA** D/o Sri Seebaiah, Aged about 26 years, Both are Residing at No.80, 7th Cross, 6th Main Road, Maruthinagar, Nagarabhavi Main Road, Bengaluru - 560 072, who represent to my client that they are the absolute Owners of the Schedule Property having acquired the same by way of Gift Deed dated 03.07.2017, which is registered as Document No. 2531/2017-18, Stored in CD No. NGBD316, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Nagarbhavi, Bengaluru.

Anyone having any manner of right, title interest or claim over the same or objecting to the sale, may lodge their objections/claims together with the documents evidencing the same, with the undersigned **within 10 days** of the publication of this notice; failing which it will be deemed that the property is free from claims/encumbrances whatsoever and my clients will proceed with the purchase of the same.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the immovable Residential House property Assessment **No.80**, situated at Nagarabhavi Village, Yeshwanthaura Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, presently within the jurisdiction of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, Attiguppe Ward No.132, measuring East to West 30 Feet and North to South 53 Feet, totally measuring 1590 Square feet, together with residential building constructed thereon, RCC roofed, Doors and Windows are of Jungle Wood, Red Oxide Flooring, Walls of Bricks and Cement, consisting of Ground Floor measuring 1500 Square feet, with all basic amenities, and bounded on the : **East by:** Property of Thimmaiah, **West by:** Remaining property of Seebaiah, **North by :** Road, **South by :** Private Property.

Sd/- SRI.LAKSHMANA.M
M/s. SARALA LAW ASSOCIATES, Advocates
Office at "Justice Point", No.168, 3rd Floor, 1st Cross, Pooja Complex, Kilari Road, Bangalore- 560 053.

According to the Karnataka Marine Fishing Regulation Act and a recent notification issued by the State Government, all mechanised fishing operations will be suspended from June 1 to July 31 during the monsoon season

BJP PROTESTS AGAINST 'INSULT' TO CHALAVADI

In which part of the Constitution are they allowed to confine opposition leaders, asks Ashoka; Priyank hits back

Karnataka BJP leaders protest outside the Deputy Commissioner's office in Kalaburagi on Saturday | EXPRESS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Kalaburagi

SEVERAL state BJP leaders, including its president BY Vijayendra, staged 'Kalaburagi Chalo' on Saturday and sat on a dharna in front of deputy commissioner's office, protesting against what they called an insult to Council opposition leader Chalavadi Narayanaswamy by Congress workers, who confined him to a room at a guesthouse in Chittapur on May 21.

Apart from Vijayendra, Assembly opposition leader R Ashoka, Chalavadi, Chitradurga MP Govind Karjol, former minister B Sriramalu, Council opposition chief whip N Ravikumar and leader CT Ravi were part of the protest. They demanded that Rural Development and district in-charge minister Priyank Kharge be sacked from the ministry, while Additional SP Mahesh Meghannavar, DSP Shankargowda Patil, Circle Inspector of Police Chandrashekhar Tigadi and other police officers be suspended for allegedly helping Congress workers. They wanted a judicial probe into the incident.

Vijayendra said the district in-charge minister should be ashamed that Kalaburagi is in the last position in SSLC results and in the bottom 5 position in 2nd PU results. Over 18,000 posts of teachers are vacant in Kalyana-Karnataka. The government is not releasing funds for the development of constituencies, he alleged.

Ashoka said Kharge and Congress leaders claim to be protectors of the Constitution. "In which part of the Constitution are they allowed to confine opposition leaders? If Narayanaswamy committed an offence, they could have approached the police station or courts. But they took law into their hands. Police stations have become Congress stations under this government," he alleged.

Narayanaswamy said on May 21, he went to the guesthouse at Chittapur a little early to take part in the Tiranga Yatra that was to begin at 5 pm. As he was freshening up, someone locked his room from outside. Around 20 Congress workers were outside his room, and soon the numbers went up to 50. There were also over 300 policemen, but they did not help. "Instead, they asked me to remain inside the room. They were seen talking over their mobile phone all the time. Perhaps, they were in contact with Kharge. If he is investigated, the truth will come out," he said.

On Kharge's statement that Narayanaswamy has not been elected even once, while he has become a minister the third time, Narayanaswamy said the Kharge family did not allow anyone else to enjoy power.

"Jewargi MLA Dr Ajay Singh has also become an MLA for the third time like Kharge. Why didn't he become minister? Why is SM Narayanaswamy, who is also a Dalit and a four-time MLA, not a minister? Why have Prasad Abbayya and Shivanna Anekal, who have also won three times, not become ministers," he questioned. Narayanaswamy said he was a Congressman for 40 years, but AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge did not give him a chance to contest elections.

Go to Pak to make 'Akhand Bharat' dream come true: Priyank to Ravi

Priyank Kharge took a dig at BJP MLC CT Ravi for taking the names of 'Nizams' and 'Razakars'. "All BJP leaders have given long speeches in Kalaburagi, while C T Ravi knows nothing other than Nizams and Razakars. He keeps uttering the word Pakistan. RSS keeps saying that 'Akhand Bharat' should become true. Let the BJP leaders go to Pakistan and start politics from there. Let the RSS dream of an integrated India come true," he said. He asked Ravi to give his voice sample in the case of him allegedly making derogatory remarks against minister Laxmi Hebbalkar.

'BJP will be humiliated in K'buragi if it targets me for personal reasons'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

RDPR and IT/BT Minister Priyank Kharge on Saturday warned BJP leaders that if they protest against him in Kalaburagi for personal reasons instead of development issues, they will get humiliated by the people. Addressing reproters on BJP protesting against him in Kalaburagi over Congress workers allegedly illegally detaining LoP in Council Chalavadi Narayanaswamy at the government guesthouse at Chittapur recently, Priyank took strong exception to the BJP leader playing the victim card. He tried to drive home a point that the BJP state leadership that protested against him four times could not prove a point, as all the cases were found to be false and the issue of Narayanaswamy will face a similar fate.

"Chalavadi Narayanaswamy openly called me a dog, and I am the victim, but it is ridiculous that he is accusing me. He scolds me and goes to my constituency... eventually faces the backlash of the people, and now he is playing the victim card. I do not understand his logic. Narayanaswamy has two tongues, as he gave two versions of the same incident. After meeting the governor, he claimed he did not call me a dog," Priyank said. "BJP staged a protest against me, trusting their candidate, a 'rice thief,' against me in the last Assembly polls. He tried to implicate me in a false case, but during the investigation, it was found that it was a drunken brawl created by himself," Priyank said, adding that people of Chittapur have seen the development works implemented by Congress and will continue to vote for the party in the future too. "No matter how much you (BJP) try to fool people, the people of Chittapur will vote for development," he said. "BJP is alleging that we have made Kalaburagi our republic. If it were true, we should not have allowed them to stage protests... even on Saturday, a nod was given for a protest," he said.

"State BJP chief Vijayendra does not know the politics of our region. Even if a person falls into a sandpit and dies, Vijayendra would protest, saying Priyank was involved in it. If you do this listening to your local leaders, you will certainly not succeed politically," Priyank told Vijayendra.

No matter how much you (BJP) try to fool people, the people of Chittapur will vote for development

RDPR and IT/BT Minister Priyank Kharge

Need long-term, sustained measures to tackle deluge in B'luru

PICTURE this: Earlier this week, on Tuesday afternoon, most top Congress leaders in Karnataka, including Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, were sharing the dais with their central leaders at a massive convention in Hosapete — around 320 km from Bengaluru — to mark the Congress government completing two years in office. They eloquently spoke about the government's achievements. The mood was celebratory. Around the same time, people in many parts of the state capital were struggling to deal with incessant rain pouring misery on them. Their houses were flooded, and streets turned into streams with boats pressed into service. There was a sense of frustration and helplessness.

The deluge yet again exposed a governance deficit and unplanned and unregulated growth of the city that powers the state's economy and is home to IT giants, research and development institutes of national repute, and a thriving start-up ecosystem. Unfortunately, flooding of residential areas and roads and then deploying inflated boats into service has become a new normal. It takes the victims of a deluge several days or weeks to come to terms with the devastation.

Like in the past, politicians indulged in blame game and spoke about how bad the situation was in other big cities in the country as if that was a solace to reduce the suffering and an excuse for the authorities not doing what they ought to have done before the rain started. Anger among the people was palpable. The CM, DyCM, and legislators who visited some rain-hit areas to get a first-hand impression of the situation faced public ire.

That visit and the public anger seem to have pushed the administrative machinery into action. After a meeting of top officers from various departments, directions were issued to prevent flooding, clear lake encroachments, and fill 647 potholes – actual numbers may be much higher – in seven days.

It is good to see the administrative machinery getting into action, but the question is, will the directions issued by the government translate into action, and will the administration keep up the momentum in the long run? Unfortunately, the situation on the ground does not inspire confidence.

Those familiar with governance in Bengaluru, and who have been part of the state administration for years, attribute the recurring rain havoc to the conversion of lakes into residential layouts and encroachment of stormwater drains. Although successive governments talk about clearing encroachments on stormwater drains, it is practically impossible, as thousands of houses have been constructed. Even those in the government admit that it is impossible to clear all encroachments by demolishing houses, and the engineers need to find a way to avoid flooding in over 100 spots.

The situation doesn't look good, especially with the monsoon hitting the state. Authorities can hardly do anything substantive in the next few days to prevent flooding in all vulnerable areas. They should at least make efforts to resolve the problem in the worst-hit areas and, on a war footing, try to minimise the impact of flooding in all the vulnerable areas, even as they start the process to implement long-term measures.

Once the rain resumes, the roads in Bengaluru will turn from bad to worse. More potholes will resurface, hindering the smooth flow of traffic and posing a risk to motorists. One fails to understand why jurisdictional engineers and other officers are not held responsible for the poor condition of roads or the inefficient waste collection system. Names and numbers of officers responsible should be displayed in public places to ensure that people can contact them easily. At the local level, it brings much-needed transparency and accountability to the administration.

A long-term vision, stringent enforcement of laws and citizen participation in planning and development are required to address the situation that has deteriorated over the years. Although many cities and towns face similar problems, the government needs to act before it further impacts Brand Bengaluru.

Having the Greater Bengaluru Authority or renaming the Ramanagara district as Bengaluru South will not be of much help if they are just politically convenient administrative decisions without proper planning. Bengaluru is one of the fastest-growing cities in the world, and the authorities would do well by learning from past mistakes to take corrective measures and ensure planned growth.

The immense pressure on Bengaluru also highlights the need to develop tier-2 cities and towns in the state. The government's 'Beyond Bangalore' initiative needs a renewed push to ensure they do not go the Bengaluru way. On their part, elected representatives and officers in tier-2 and tier-3 cities and towns need to learn from the shortcomings in Bengaluru and ensure structured growth ahead.

Anubhava Mantapa will be inaugurated next year, says Siddaramaiah

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Mysuru

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah on Saturday said that the Anubhava Mantapa, being constructed at a cost of over Rs 600 crore in Basavakalyan of Bidar district, will be completed and inaugurated next year. He was speaking after inaugurating the 'Basava Jayanti - 2025: Our Steps Towards Anubhava Mantapa' programme organised by the Basava Balagala Okoota and the All India Veerashaiva-Lingayat Mahasabha in Mysuru.

The CM explained that Anubhava Mantapa is being developed as a replica of the world's first Parliament originally established in the 12th century by social reformer Basavanna. "Work is ongoing and will be completed next year," the CM assured the gathering.

The CM said that it was his government that constituted a committee headed by writer Go Ru Channabasappa to prepare the project report for the project. Siddaramaiah said that Basavanna was not only a revolutionary social reformer but also a globally recognised economist. "His teachings of Kayaka (dignity of labor) and Dasoha (equitable distribution) aimed at socio-economic equality. The revolution he led against the caste system is unmatched anywhere in the world," Siddaramaiah added.

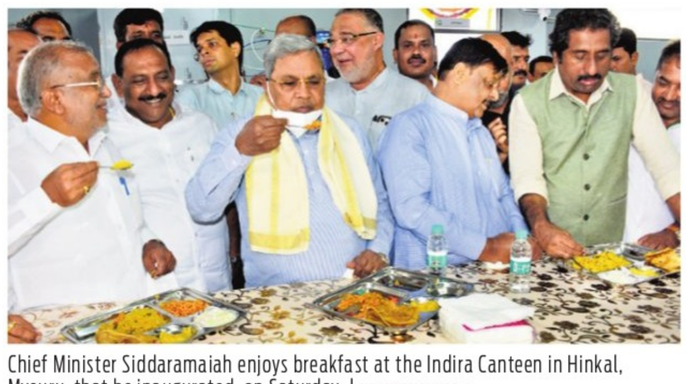
He emphasised that Basavanna envisioned a casteless, secular, and humane society. "Vachana and Dasa literature are landmarks in Kannada literature, making knowledge accessible to those previously denied education," the CM said.

Reflecting on his own life, the CM shared a personal story. "My parents were illiterate. I was enrolled directly into Class 5 thanks to my school headmaster, Rajappa. My father had initially sent me to learn Veeramakkala Kunita instead of schooling. It was art dance teacher Nanjegowda who taught me the basics of language and math on sand. After two years of training, I was tending cattle until Rajappa ensured I went to school. I owe my education and the opportunity of becoming CM twice to Dr BR Ambedkar, who studied Basavanna's vachanas and ensured their essence was reflected in the Constitution," the CM said.

The event was attended by Suttur Mutt seer Shivaratri Deshikendra Swamiji and Social Welfare Minister HC Mahadevappa.

Meanwhile, with Covid-19 cases once again on the rise, CM Siddaramaiah was seeing wearing a mask in the events that he attended in Mysuru.

Meanwhile, the Sri Ganapathi Sachidananda Ashram, which is gearing up for the 85th birthday celebrations of Sri Ganapathi Sachindananda Swamiji, has decided to provide face masks to all those visiting the ashram during the week-long programmes.



Chief Minister Siddaramaiah enjoys breakfast at the Indira Canteen in Hinkal, Mysuru, that he inaugurated, on Saturday | UDAYASHANKAR S

SHOW OF SUPPORT

Despite ED raids, Congress top brass affirms faith in Parameshwara

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @ Bengaluru

THE Directorate of Enforcement's recent raids at the educational institutions belonging to Home Minister **Dr G Parameshwara** has queered the pitch for the state government.

Union Minister HD Kumaraswamy prodded the Congress by saying a 'powerful' leader within the party was responsible for Parameshwara's plight. HDK also alleged that the 'powerful leader' tipped off enforcement authorities about actress Ranya Rao's gold smuggling. Further, citing Union Minister Pralhad Joshi, Kumaraswamy said the Congress leaders themselves had turned informants against their own party leaders for the ED.

Sources said that HDK's charges then would mean that some of the leaders within the Congress are in touch with the leaders of their rival parties.

"If that's true, the Congress leaders proved to be influential on the ED, an independent investigation agency", taunted RDPR and IT Minister Priyank Kharge on Saturday.

According to sources during Thursday's cabinet meeting held by Siddaramaiah the issue was raised and the party has decided to stand by Parameshwara.

Social welfare minister Dr. HC Mahadevappa took strong exception to DCM DK Shivakumar while talking to media, just before the cabinet meeting, 'ascertaining' that the educational trust belonging to Parameshwara 'gifting' some Rs 40 lakh to Ranya Rao, the sources added.

Shivakumar had met Parameshwara hours before attending the cabinet and had issued the statement in the meantime that did not go down well among the cabinet ministers.

But Shivakumar defended that he, as the KPCC president, was forced to reply to the queries of the media over the issue.

The party high command, after ascertaining the facts about the Ranya Rao case and subsequent ED raids, has took a decision to stand by Parameshwara. Evidently the AICC general secretary and Karnataka incharge Randeep Singh Surjewala issued a statement and, later, Siddaramaiah and other leaders followed suit.

Parameshwara, who held the KPCC president's post for a record eight years and led the party to power in 2013, has earned the sympathies of the high command, observed a Congress leader.

It may be recalled here that when the alleged MUDA scam surfaced HD Kumaraswamy had pointed fingers at the 'influential leader' in the Congress for the expose. Even in the alleged honey trap attempt on K N Rajanna, Cooperation Minister, the Opposition had raised the issue on the floor of the House.

'Must reaffirm our commitment to pluralism, justice, rule of law'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

OFFERING to partner with the Union government and NITI Aayog in sharing the state's best practices and co-developing frameworks that align with the national ambition of Bharat @2047, he said the Karnataka model is rooted in social justice, economic strength and democratic values. "We believe that the Karnataka experience can serve as a platform for national collaboration, where innovation meets inclusion, and governance meets grassroots transformation," he added.

As a developed India by 2047 is being envisioned, it is imperative to begin by acknowledging the complex challenges, he said. "These are not just obstacles of resource or capacity, but challenges of distribution, inclusion, governance and resilience," he said. Despite progress, widening disparities, regional, economic, and social, continue to limit millions. The real challenge is to ensure equitable development, where every community and region shares in India's growth and opportunity, he said. "India's demographic dividend remains one of our greatest assets, but also one of our greatest risks. Jobless growth, underemployment and a misalignment between education and employability can lead to social alienation and economic inefficiency," he said, emphasising the need for national skilling architecture that is both responsive and anticipatory.

He said the risk of digital stratification where technological advancement outpaces access and literacy, education and skill is real, and this is concerning. "We must bridge not just the digital divide, but the digital capability gap," he said.

The journey to 2047 cannot be purely economic, it must also be socially harmonious and constitutionally anchored, he said. "Rising polarisation, exclusionary narratives, and erosion of trust in institutions weaken the very foundations of our Republic. We must reaffirm our commitment to pluralism, justice, and the rule of law," he added.

In an era of global realignments, India must remain vigilant. Challenges to territorial integrity, national security, and communal harmony require a governance model that is not only efficient but resilient and inclusive. Development without security is fragile; security without justice is untenable, he said. The challenges demand systemic transformation and responses must be grounded in evidence-based policymaking, rights-based welfare, and cooperative federalism, the CM said.

"India @2047 should not just be a slogan; it must be a challenge and a calling for all of us. A challenge to close the gaps of inequality, and a calling to rise together as a federation of empowered states. The road to India @2047 must be paved with the visions, strengths, and aspirations of every state, from the Himalayas, the banks of the Ganga to the plains of Kaveri," he added.

CM should've attended NITI Aayog meeting: HDK

BENGALURU: Union Minister HD Kumaraswamy on Saturday said there is no point in just criticising the Union Government and Chief Minister Siddaramaiah should have attended the NITI Aayog meeting in New Delhi. Questioning Siddaramaiah abstaining from the meeting, the Union Minister said it is wrong to sacrifice the state's interests for political prestige. "How can the problems be solved if there is no dialogue? You should have attended the important meeting held under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi," he said. Kumaraswamy suggested that in the interest of the state, in the future the CM should attend such meetings without fail. "We should work together in the federal system. There should be no politics in the development of the state," he said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Tamilnadu Chief Minister MK Stalin and AP Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu at the NITI Aayog meeting on Saturday | PTI

Hike states' central tax revenue share to 50%: Stalin to Centre

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

TAMIL Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin on Saturday urged the BJP-led Union government to extend its support to all the states, including Tamil Nadu, without any discrimination to achieve their developmental goals. He also reiterated the state's demand, made earlier to the 16th Finance Commission, to increase the states' share in the Centre's tax revenue to 50%. Though the 15th Finance Commission had increased it to 41%, only 33.16% of the Centre's gross tax revenue has been shared with the states, he noted.

Addressing the NITI Aayog's Governing Council (GC) meeting in New Delhi, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi with the participation of CMs from across the country, Stalin stressed that "cooperative federalism" is the foundational principle to realise the PM's vision to make India a developed nation and a $30 trillion economy by 2047.

He contended that contrary to the recommendation of the 15th Finance Commission that the share of states in the divisible pool of central taxes be increased to 41%, only 33.16% of the "gross tax revenue" of the union government has been devolved to the states in the past four years. Moreover, increasing the share to be borne by states to implement centrally-sponsored schemes has further affected the financial burden on states like Tamil Nadu, he added.

Recalling Modi's remarks in the previous GC meeting that states should play a vital role in achieving his vision, as they are directly connected to the people, Stalin pointed out that it did not augur well for the country's cooperative federal structure that states are being made to constantly fight and litigate for their rightful share of funds from the union government. This will not only affect the development of individual states, but also India as a whole, he added.

Pointing to the achievements made under the Namami Gange Programme, the CM sought a similar scheme for key rivers in TN like Cauvery, Thamirabharani and Vaigai.

Monsoon hits K'taka nearly 10 days earlier

MOHAMMED YACOOB @Bengaluru

FOR the first time in more than one-and-a-half decades, the southwest monsoon officially entered Karnataka on Saturday, nearly 10 days ahead of schedule, which is normally the first week of June.

According to CS Patil, Director, India Meteorological Department (IMD), Bengaluru, monsoon entered Kerala, the rainy season's first port of call, too on Saturday, the same day as Karnataka.

According to IMD, the northern limit of the monsoon passes through Karwar and Shivamogga in Karnataka, Dharmapuri and Chennai in Tamil Nadu and Saiha in Mizoram.

He said south-interior Karnataka comprising Bengaluru Urban and Rural, Chamarajanagar, Kodagu, Chikkamagaluru, Shivamogga, Davanagere, Chitradurga, Vijayanagara, Ballari, Kolar, Hassan, Tumakuru, Chikkaballapur, Mysuru, Bengaluru South (formerly Ramanagara) and Mandya will witness normal rainfall this season. North-interior Karnataka districts, comprising Dharwad, Belagavi, Gadag, Bagalkot, Kalaburagi, Bidar, Koppal, Vijayapura, Haveri, Yadgir and Raichur, and coastal districts of Uttara Kannada, Dakshina Kannada and Udupi will witness above normal rain this season.

According to IMD, southwest monsoon is likely to cover some more parts of Karnataka on May 26.

The weather agency has also forecast extreme heavy rain to heavy to very heavy rain/thundershowers with sustained winds (30-40 kmph) at a few places of Karnataka for the next seven days.

A couple rides a two-wheeler amid light rain in Bengaluru | ALLEN EGENUSE J

ECO DISASTER

Oil spill alert as vessel tilts off Kochi coast

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kochi

A container vessel carrying inflammable and toxic cargo has listed off Kochi coast on Saturday afternoon posing threat of environmental pollution and oil spill in Kerala's coastal areas. According to the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA), the coast guard has issued an alert of possible oil spill as a few containers fell off MSC Elsa 3, a container vessels which was on its way from Tutucorin port to Kochi port. The vessel was transporting Very Low Sulfur Fuel Oil (VLSFO), a marine fuel.

According to the Indian Coast Guard, MSC Elsa 3, a Liberia flagged container vessel which departed from Vizhinjam port on Friday reported listing at approximately 38 nautical miles off Kochi coast.

As per the alert, the vessel has developed a list of 26-degree, endangering the lives of those onboard as well as posing potential environmental risks due to the sinking of containers into the sea. The Coast Guard diverted two ships. According to the authorities a Dornier winged aircraft was deployed for monitoring and air dropping life rafts to the crew members.

EXPRESS READ

FOREST GUARD SHOT DEAD BY POACHERS

Bhubaneswar/Dhenkanal: A forest guard was gunned down by poachers during a late night patrol in Dhenkanal forest division, close to Satkosia Tiger Reserve, highlighting the vulnerability of frontline forest staff and audacity of armed criminals. Prahlad Pradhan (37) was the forest guard of Sinkol beat and also the in-charge of Hindol section in Dhenkanal forest division. He was leading the patrol team. Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi expressed condolences and announced ₹30 lakh ex gratia to the next of kin of the slain forest guard. Sources said the incident took place at around 3 am on Saturday when a 13-member team led by Pradhan was on an anti-poaching patrol. **ENS**

'Felt like monkey': Miss England quits pageant

SHREYA VERONICA @Hyderabad

TILL Saturday, the 72nd edition of Miss World was progressing as planned: A polite parade of poise, sequins and diplomatic smiles. Then came an unscheduled fireworks display by none other than Miss England 2024, Milla Maggie.

Having left the competition on May 16, allegedly due to "personal reasons", Maggie re-emerged in tabloid The Sun with claims that make Bridgerton look like a documentary. "I went there to make a difference, but we had to sit like performing monkeys," The Sun quoted her as saying, suggesting the Miss World experience was less about world peace and more about looking glamorous. Maggie, 24, didn't stop there. She claimed contestants were expected to be decked out in full makeup and evening wear from dawn till dusk, including breakfast. According to her, the whole affair resembled a sort of high-end cattle fair, where women were "paraded to impress wealthy individuals" and she was made to feel "like a prostitute being farmed out for entertainment."

Understandably, this did not go down too well in Hyderabad which is hosting the pageant. The state government was swift in its response.

Jayesh Ranjan, Special Chief Secretary for Youth Advancement, Tourism and Culture, offered a firmly bureaucratic rebuttal: "We will be conducting a meeting regarding this on May 25. This is just an exaggerated situation." The Miss World Organisation pushed back with a response, stating that Maggie had cited health reasons for her departure and that all official events were strictly above board.

The organisation even released unedited video footage of Maggie smiling beatifically and thanking organisers for the experience. Meanwhile, the show goes on. England has now dispatched a replacement contestant, Charlotte Cox, to Hyderabad, where she was received with polite applause and a display of warmth.

B'GAVI SEER HELD ON CHARGES OF KIDNAPPING, RAPING MINOR

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Belagavi

A self-proclaimed pontiff has been arrested for allegedly kidnapping and raping a minor girl in Bealagavi. The accused Hathyogi Lokeshwar Swami a seer of Ram Mandir Mutt in Mekhali village of Raybag taluk, Belagavi has been taken into judicial custody. According to reports, the incident occurred on May 13, when the minor girl was returning from a relative's house. The accused, claiming he would safely drop her home, instead lured her to a lodge in Raichur. There, he allegedly held her for two days and raped her. He later took her to another lodge in Bagalkot, where he continued to abuse her sexually.

The girl managed to contact her parents and narrated the incident. Her parents filed a complaint at the Bagalkot women's police station. Belagavi SP Dr Bhimashankar Guled confirmed the arrest. Locals who visited the Mutt found dangerous weapons and materials linked to suspicious activities. Allegations have also surfaced that the pontiff was involved in illegal gambling operations, such as "Matka" number prediction, and had misled several villagers.

KALABURAGI MAHANAGARA PALIKE, KALABURAGI

Fax No.08472/260776, Phone: 08472/ 278675, Email Id: itstaff_ulb_gulbarga@yahoo.com

No.KMP/HS/SWM/C&D/SBM2.0/TS/2024-25 Date: 17.05.2025

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTIFICATION

Under the Karnataka Public Procurement Transparency Rules 2000, Kalaburagi Mahanagara Corporation invites tenders from eligible bidders for the work mentioned below. Tenders are invited through e-procurement for the following services.

1) Details of Work/Service : Tender for the supply, installation, commissioning and successful run of 16cum portable compactor along with truck mounted hook loader on 28t GVW truck chassis for Transfer Station at Kalaburagi city corporation. 2) Indent Numbers : **DMA/2024-25/IND4025/CALL-2,** 3) EMD Amount (In Rupees) : **3,05,73,800/-,** 4) **Dates fixed for tender :** 1. Pre-Bid Meeting Date : 23.05.2025 Time : 2.30pm, 2. Last Date and Time for Tender Queries/Clarifications Date : 31.05.2025 Time : 2.30pm, 3. Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders Date : 02.06.2025 Time : 2.30pm, 4. Date and Time for Opening of Technical Bid Date : 03.06.2025 Time : 3.00pm, 5. Date and Time for Opening of Financial Bid Date : 06.06.2025 Time : 12.00pm

• More details about EMD is available in e-procurement., • For more details: Assistant Executive Engineer (Env) Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike can be contacted. • Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Assistant Executive Engineer (Env)
Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike Kalaburagi

DIPR/Kalaburagi/147/KSMC&A/2025-26

Government of Karnataka

Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Shimoga District, Shimoga

Phone : 08182-271101/221010/222002, FAX : 277082,
E-mail : **ka.shivamogga.dudc@gmail.com**

No: SMGDC.DUDC/PLAN/05/34554/2020 **Dated: 23.05.2025**

Tender Notification

Tenders have been invited from the Project Director, District Urban Development Cell, Shivamogga through kpp e-procurement portal http://kppp.karnataka.gov. in from interested and eligible contractors registered under Companies Registration Act 1956 and PWD/Electrical Inspectorate to appoint Concessionaire to establish CCMS – Centralised Control and Monitoring System in the limits of 10 urban local bodies of Shivamogga District (City Municipal Council, Bhadravathi, City Municipal Council Sagar, Municipal Council Shikaripura, Municipal Council Shiralkoppa, Municipal Council Soraba,Town Panchayat Theerthahalli, Town Panchayat Hosanagara, Town Panchayat Anavatti, Town Panchayat Holehonnooru, Town Panchayat Jog-Kargal) in order to achieve energy saving by replacing the existing traditional street lights with LED lights and maintenance of all street lights including the existing LED lights installed in urban local body limits. More details can be had from this office during office hours. Tender documents are available online through kpp-procurement portal **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Tender details are as follows:

		Time
1.	Indent No	DMA/2024-25/SE4231
2.	EMD Amount	47.85 Lakhs
3.	Pre bid Meeting	05.06.2025 at 11.30 AM at the office of District Urban Development Cell, Shivamogga
4.	Last date for submission of tender	25.06.2025 till 5.30 P M
5.	Date of opening of Technical bid	27.06.2025 at 11.00 AM
6.	Date of opening of Financial bid	14.07.2025 at 11.00 AM or on the date intimated later.

If there is any changes in tender schedule and conditions, the same will be published in e-procurement portal only. And no paper publication.

Sd/-
Project Director, District Urban Development Cell, Shivamogga District.

DIPR/SMG/No-151-05/zenkar/2025-26

बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया Bank of India BOI

Bengaluru Zone : # 11, 1st Floor, K.G.Road, Bengaluru-09
T.: 080-2295 9407 / 08, **E.:** bengaluru.ARD@bankofindia.co.in
Asset Recovery.Bengaluru@bankofindia.co.in

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES "APPENDIX-IV-A [See proviso to Rule 8 (6)]

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable properties Mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of **Bank of India,** will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** for recovery of below mentioned amount/s. The details of Borrower/s/Guarantor/s/Secured Asset/s/Dues/Reserve Price/e-Auction date, Time & EMD amount are mentioned below:

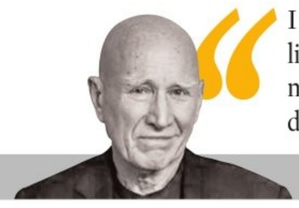
Sr. No.	Name & Address of Borrower/s/ Guarantor/s/Mortgagor (s)	Description of Immovable Property With Known Encumberances	Branch Name Account No; Total Dues	Date & Time of E-Auction	Reserve Price EMD Amount	Status of Possession (Symbolic/Physical)	Property Inspection Time
1.	**Rajendra BG,** No 1068 6th Main 3rd Stage, 3rd block,, Near Govt School, Basaveshwaranagar, Bangalore-560079, Also at : **Rajendra B.G,** No.7, PID No.25-19-7, 4th Main Road, Ramachandrapuram, Bangalore- 560021 **Mamatha Devi J K,** No 1068 6th Main 3rd Stage, 3rd block, Near Govt School, Basaveshwaranagar Bangalore-560079 **M/s Bharani Infrastructures,** No.22 A, 5th Main Road, Ramachandrapuram, Bangalore-560021	Residential Immovable property bearing Corporation No-7, 7/11 & 7/12, PID No 25-19-7, ID No 25-19-7/11 & PID NO.25-19-7/12, situated at 4th Main Road, Rama chandrapuram, Bangalore-560021 in Ward no 25 of Ramachandrapura Sub-Division and measuring 1104 Square feet together with building there on owned by Mr. Rajendra B G within jurisdiction of BBMP and bounded by: East: Road, West: Remaining property, North: conservancy, South: Private Property	**Branch : Asset Recovery Branch** **A/C No: 840875110000164, 840830110000056** **Rs.73,75,633.11 (Rupees Seventy Three Lakhs Seventy Five Thousand Six Hundred Thirty Three Paisa One One)** + uncharged interest along with further interest, presently @7.55% p.a linked to MCLR in the housing loan account, **Rs.36,50,758.32 (Rupees Thirty Six Lakh Fifty Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Eight Paisa Three Two)** + Charged amount along with further interest, presently @9.65% p.a. Linked to MCLR in the cash credit account and **Rs.97,324.80 (Rupees Ninety Seven Thousand Three Hundred Twenty Four Paisa Eight Zero)** + uncharged interest along with further interest in your credit card dues presently @ 30.00% p.a linked to MCLR compounded with monthly rests from 31.12.2018 with costs and other charges	10-06-2025 between 11.00 am to 05.00 pm	**Reserve Price :** Rs.1,14,30,000/- **EMD :** Rs.11,43,000/-	Symbolic	10.00 AM To 4.00 PM Contact Details of Authorised Officer +91 98504 77529
2.	**Mr. Venkatesh K Acharya** No.95 7th Main Road, Ramnajaneya Nagar, Hanuman Hills Layout, Vasanthapura, Uttarahalli Bangalore- 560061 Also At : **Mr. Venkatesh K Acharya** Flat No.8, Third floor, North Block, "Eshwari Enclave" Corp No.45, 8th A Cross, Kanakanagar, Bangalore- 560032	Residential property in the name of Venkatesh K Acharya bearing Flat No-8, measuring 1292 sq.ft as Super Built Area, situated at 3rd Floor, North Block, "Eshwari Enclave", Corporation No 45, PID no: 96-310-45 (Formerly being portion of Survey No 28/4, Vishwanatha Nagenahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk), 8th A Cross, Kanakanagar, Ward No-96, Hebbal, Bangalore. The Boundaries of the Property: East by - Private property, West by - Road and Retained portion to the extent of 167x50 ft, North by - Private Property, South by - Private Property. The Boundaries of the flat: East by - Lift, West by - Flat No-7,, North by - Main Door, South by - Open Space	**Branch : Asset Recovery Branch** **A/C No: 840475110000351** **Rs.49,50,512.09 (Rupees Forty Nine Lakhs Fifty Thousand Five Hundred Twelve Paisa Zero Nine)** with interest from 29.03.2018 @8.60% per annum monthly rests with costs and other charges	10-06-2025 between 11.00 am to 05.00 pm	**Reserve Price :** Rs.36,00,000/- **EMD :** Rs.3,60,000/-	Physical	10.00 AM To 4.00 PM Contact Details of Authorised Officer +91 98504 77529
3.	**Mrs. Pinki Kumari C** No 3/3, Nakoda Niwas, TD Lane, Cottonpet, Bengaluru 5600653, Also at : **Mrs. Pinki Kumari C** No 71, 2nd floor , Kashappa Lane Bengaluru 5600653, Also at : **Mrs. Pinki Kumari C** Plot no 33, Muncipal no 27/4-2 Kempapura Agrahara, 15th Cross, Bhuvaneshwarinagar A block, Magadi road , Bangalore- 560023 **Mr. Kamalesh M** No 3/3, Nakoda Niwas, TD Lane, Cottonpet, Bengaluru 5600653, Also at : **Mr.Kamalesh M** No 71, 2nd floor , Kashappa Lane Bengaluru 5600653, Also at : **Mr.Kamalesh M** Plot no 33, Muncipal no 27/4-2 Kempapura Agrahara 15th Cross, Bhuvaneshwarinagar A block, Magadi road, Bangalore- 560023	All the Piece and parcel of the immovable residential property bearing Municipal NO- 3/3, PID No 29-25-3/3 (Old Property No-A.78, Municipal No 3) situated at Thota Devara Lane, Cotton pet, BBMP Ward No 29 (New Ward No 120), Bangalore measuring East to West: 40 Feet and North to South: 14'3" Feet and adjacent western side of this property measuring: 5 feet and North to South: 4 feet, with a residential building there on and bounded by: East : Property belongs to Sri Lakshmana Reddy and Venkatashamappa, West : Totada Devara Galli and property belongs to Nagendra Sa, North : Property belongs to Shivamma, South : Property belongs to B N Rajeshekar and Nagendra	**Branch : Asset Recovery Branch** **A/C No : 840075110000240, 840075110000221 & 840075110000201** **Rs.34,40,696 (Rupee Thirty-Four Lakhs Forty Thousand Six Hundred Ninety Six)** with further int@9.65% p.a. from 13-02-2023, for Term Loan **Rs.13,83,070 (Rupees Thirteen Lakhs Eighty Three Thousand Seventy)** with further interest @9.65% p.a. with monthly rests from 13-02-2023, for Term Loan **Rs.90,58,109.80 (Ninety Lakhs Fifty Eight Thousand one Hundred Nine and Eight Zero)** with further interest @9.65% p.a. with monthly rests from 13-02-2023, compounded with monthly rests and all costs charges	10-06-2025 between 11.00 am to 05.00 pm	**Reserve Price :** Rs.1,00,00,000/- **EMD :** Rs.10,00,000/-	Physical	10.00 AM To 4.00 PM Contact Details of Authorised Officer +91 98504 77529
4.	**Mr. PRATHAP KC** No-9, Behind Rajanna Flour Mill, Kanaka Nagar, JP Nagar, Bangalore - 560078 Also at : **Mr. PRATHAP KC** No 6/2 ,1st floor, Padma Palace Plot no 6, Ward no 111, Bride street Langford town , Bengaluru Karnataka-560025 **Mrs. Hemavathi N** No-9, Behind Rajanna Flour Mill, Kanaka Nagar, JP Nagar, Bangalore - 560078 Also at : **Mrs. Hemavathi N** No 6/2 ,1st floor, Padma Palace Plot no 6, Ward no 111, Bride street Langford town , Bengaluru Karnataka-560025	All the piece and parcel of Residential apartment "Padma palace" Bearing municipal NO 6/2 on the Northern side of the first floor, having 1400 sq. ft of super built up area (1250 sq. ft build-up area) and 454 sq. ft undivided shared built on the property bearing plot no.6 (Previously eastern portion of plot no.6) Situated at Bride Street Langford Town, Bengaluru-560025 Bounded by: East by: Private Property, West by: Common passage to ingress and egress and property belonging to legal Heirs of Late Chithra Sukumar, North by: Property bearing NO.6/1 belonging to Sri Prithvi Jayasurya, South by: Private Property	**Branch : Asset Recovery Branch** **A/C No: 842475110000142** **Rs.1,63,00,447/- (Rupees One Crore Sixty-Three Lakhs Four Hundred Forty Seven)** for account number 842475110000142 compounded with monthly rests from 29-10-2023 with costs and other charges	10-06-2025 between 11.00 am to 05.00 pm	**Reserve Price :** Rs.1,30,00,000/- **EMD :** Rs.13,00,000/-	Physical	10.00 AM To 4.00 PM Contact Details of Authorised Officer +91 98504 77529

To the best knowledge and information available with the Authorised Officer, there is no encumbrance on the property referred above. However, the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of the property and to inspect & satisfy them. The auction will be online E-Auction Sale/Bidding and shall be done only through "Online Electronic Bidding" process through the website **https://BAANKNET.com** For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in **https://www.BAANKNET.com or https://www.bankofindia.co.in/tenders.**

The Authorised Officer has the absolute right and discretion to accept or reject any bid or adjourn/postpone/cancel the sale/modify any terms and conditions of the sale without any prior notice and assigning any reason.

Date & Time of E-auction: **10-06-2025** between 11.00 am to 05.00 pm (with unlimited extension of 10 minutes if bidding continues till sale is concluded)

Date : 23.05.2025 I Place : Bangalore **Sd/- Chief Manager & Authorised Officer**



I don't want anyone to appreciate the light or the palette of tones. I want my pictures to inform, to provoke discussion—and to raise money

Sebastião Salgado

INDIAN CITIES: FLOOD OF WOES, DROUGHT OF ACTION

THE THIRD EYE

SHANKKAR AIYAR
Author of *The Gated Republic*, *Aadhaar: A Biometric History of India's 12 Digit Revolution*, and *Accidental India*
(shankkar.aiyar@gmail.com)

THE monsoon has just made landfall and is creeping across the peninsula. However, flooding in urban India arrived with pre-monsoon showers this year—as a reminder of the nightmares that follow every year. The spectacle is vividly visible across India's cities, from Mumbai to Guwahati and Bengaluru to Gurugram.

Urban India hosts around 150 Lok Sabha constituencies and is home to nearly 550 million citizens—one in three in a 1.4-billion population. Cities occupy 3 percent of the land area and contribute over 60 percent of the GDP. They are critical enablers of economic dynamism—be it production or consumption of goods, provision of services and a large share of employment. Urban India also contributes the bulk of taxes—be it indirect taxes in the form of GST or in income tax receipts.

Yet, urban India faces a flood of woes and a drought of action. Take Bengaluru, India's 'Silicon Valley', and destination for the bulk of venture capital. Floods brought it to a halt following 10 cm of rains. Access to IT parks and technology companies were water-logged, triggering work-from-home directives. Anger spilled over on social media, saturated by commentary and photographs of boats and dumpers deployed to rescue people and cars stranded in basements. As a result, typically, the government is banning parking in basements.

In India's business capital Mumbai, the Andheri subway, a benchmark for flooding in the western suburbs, was shut down. In south Mumbai, the systemic sloth afflicting the city was symbolised by the flooding at Bora Bazar, where the contractors 'forgot' to provide for drainage. In Smart City Pune—a start-up hub and a destination for global capability centres—access to new habitats in the IT corridor and near the airport were flooded following an hour of rains.

Take the national capital territory of Delhi, which is governed by three layers of the same party. Earlier this month, several parts of Delhi—including Connaught Place, Sadar Bazar and Kamala Nagar—were waterlogged after a few hours of showers. Despite assurances, lives and livelihoods in areas such as Azad Market and the infamous Minto Road underpass were under water. In neighbouring Gurugram, homes costing crores of rupees found sewer water entering their basements. Unsurprisingly, urban India is gripped every year by a sense of *déja vu* and frustrating anger.

Urban development in the Indian context is, effectively, an unplanned amoebic expansion of housing and commercial spaces. The faultlines are documented. A 2021 report of the ministry of housing and urban affairs observes, "Floodplains in Indian cities are very much exposed to unauthorised construction, which has taken place without preparation and approval of layout plans." Flooding is a result of poor retrofitting of policy and facilities such as drainage. Add to this the inadequacies of waste management, poor desilting, the inefficiencies haunting urban local bodies and lack of capacity.

In 2014, the BJP manifesto promised the construction of 100 new cities. That was replaced with a promise of Smart Cities launched in June 2015. The mission: to promote cities that provide core infrastructure, clean and sustainable environment, and give a decent quality of life to their citizens through the application of 'smart solutions'. How has that panned out? The Smart Cities Mission (SCM) covered 100 cities. As per data provided in parliament, 8,063 projects costing over ₹1,64,545 crore were taken up, and 7,504 projects costing over ₹1,50,306 crore were completed. It is arguable that this spend should have included provision of infrastructure to prevent flooding. But cities continue to be flooded.

The SCM was supplemented by another scheme called AMRUT, launched in 2015 to cover 500 cities and towns. The mission: development of basic infrastructure. The thrust areas: water supply, sewage and septage management, storm-water drains to reduce flooding, besides public transport and enhancement of amenities. Under AMRUT, over 6,000 projects worth ₹83,578 crore were taken up.

What was the spending on flood prevention and what has it delivered? Some 793 projects with a total spend ₹2,332 crore for 1,434 km of storm water drains were taken up. The wherewhat of their success is as fuzzy as the answer provided in the Lok Sabha. The gap between need and delivery is stark. A 2022 World Bank report estimates that India would need to spend as much as $840 billion in 15 years on its urban infrastructure to meet the needs of a growing urban population that's expected to touch 600 million by 2036.

The hurdle is not only of resources—the government's total expenditure in the decade since 2014 has gone up from ₹17.94 lakh crore to ₹50.65 lakh crore, as the GDP more than doubled. The situation is worsened by a poverty of political intent. The architecture of governance disempowers urban governance. The promise of the 74th Amendment to the Constitution—transfer of funds and functions from the Centre and states to local governments—was reduced to legalese in over a quarter of a century. Local bodies are colonised by states, just as states are colonised by the Union.

Urbanisation is a proven force-multiplier of employment, incomes and growth. Unfortunately, the architecture of politics, with an inherent bias for freebie-funded votes, has reduced urban India into a constituency of a lesser god.

PAKISTAN'S PATH TO MARTIAL PERDITION

POWER & POLITICS

PRABHU CHAWLA
prabhuchawla@newindianexpress.com
Follow him on X @PrabhuChawla

SUCCESS has many fathers. Failure, we are told, is an orphan. But in Pakistan, failure is pampered like a princeling. In this fractured federation of follies, where generals govern and civilians cower, General Syed Asim Munir's elevation to field marshal is less a medal of merit and more a coronation of chaos. It marks not just the military's muscle-flexing, but its full-fledged monopoly over Pakistan's political, spiritual and strategic soul.

Munir's field marshal title, sanctioned by Shehbaz Sharif's cabinet, came in the wake of India's Operation Sindoor—a determined and successful strike on terror camps in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and Pakistani air bases. The limp response—Operation Bunyan-um-Marsoos—was a blustering ballet of bombs and blunders, ending with an alleged US-brokered ceasefire that underscored Pakistan's strategic subservience. Munir's elevation was, thus, less about battlefield brilliance than about bolstering a shaky regime and soothing military egos.

The promotion tells the tale of Pakistan's field marshals. It explains Munir's zealous ideology and the army's relentless subversion of civilian rule. It also amplifies belligerent posturing against India. It raises serious questions about the political and strategic fallout of his promotion, his delicate rapport with the American establishment, and the stark economic chasm between a faltering Pakistan and a rising India.

This rare five-star flourish—last seen in 1959, when Ayub Khan grandly gifted himself the title—isn't merely ceremonial. It's symbolic of a state spiralling into subservience under khaki-clad kings. And yet, instead of accountability, Munir gets accolades. Instead of reflection, rank inflation. The general's elevation wasn't earned on battlefields—it was baked in backrooms by a compromised civilian cabinet desperate to defer to its khaki kingmaker.

His rise reinforces a grim pattern. Since 1947, Pakistan has endured dictators disguised as deliverers—Yahya, Zia, Musharraf. Munir is the latest in this lineage of lords in lanyards, a general who jails opponents, gags media, and governs through ghost laws. The 2025 Supreme Court ruling allowing military trials for civilians didn't just bend the constitution, it bludgeoned it.

The general's promotion is both pageantry and provocation, a gilded gauntlet thrown at democracy's door. Munir isn't just a general, he's a crusader in uniform. Born in 1968 to a Punjabi family from Jalandhar, he has climbed the ranks with a Quran in one hand and an iron will in the other. His tenure as ISI chief and later Chief of Army Staff was defined by a fusion of religious nationalism and institutional absolutism. He infamously declared Kashmir Pakistan's "jugular vein" in an April 2025 speech at a Rawalpindi mosque, reflecting a smilar point made at a dispora gathering and cloaking jihadist rhetoric in religious robes. His words weren't idle. The sermon preceded the deadly Pahalgam attack and reflected a larger playbook: pulpits turned into platforms for militarised religiosity.

AP

Munir envisions himself not just as a guardian of borders, but a mujahid general, wielding faith as a weapon. His paranoia is long-standing. In 2019, during the Kartarpur corridor opening, he reportedly warned that Sikh pilgrims could be Indian agents. In 2023, visiting a Balochistan madrasa, he exhorted students to "wield both pen and sword for Pakistan's honour". The blending of military ambition with messianic messaging has defined his leadership and signalled Pakistan's peril. His strategy isn't subtle. It's a sanctified stridency—a zealous vision where state, scripture, and soldiers become indistinguishable.

Pakistan's history is a tragic tale of toppled civilian rules. Ayub Khan's coup in 1958, Zia-ul-Haq's Islamic militarism, Pervez Musharraf's modern authoritarianism—each chapter is a reiteration of the army's disdain for democracy. Munir didn't need a formal coup. He orchestrated Imran Khan's ouster via a no-confidence vote, oversaw his jailing, and helped script the rigged 2024 elections. The latest Supreme Court verdict allowing military trials for civilians solidified this silent takeover through martial law masked as constitutional order.

This unrelenting militarisation comes at a steep cost. Pakistan's civilian leadership has all but ceded space. The Sharif government's acquiescence to Munir's elevation wasn't just appeasement. It was abdication. The suppression of Imran Khan's PTI has rendered political opposition toothless. The judiciary, now partially under military supervision, has green-lit a parallel justice system where civilians are dragged before military courts. The result: a fragile façade of governance over an increasingly authoritarian apparatus.

Internationally, Munir's hardline stance is fraying Pakistan's already threadbare alliances. His revival of Zia's 'Thousand cuts' doctrine and rhetoric-heavy posturing have deepened Indo-Pak hostility. New Delhi, emboldened by its economic ascent and military capacity, is unlikely to tolerate further provocations. Backchannel diplomacy lies frozen. India's 2024 trade overtures have been spurned. Kashmir remains a flashpoint, and with a hardliner in Islamabad, the risk of localised conflict along the Line of Control is rising.

Even China and the Gulf states, once staunch supporters, are increasingly wary. Beijing is concerned about Pakistan's unpredictability. Gulf donors, fatigued by Islamabad's religious radicalism and strategic flippancy, have started pulling back. Only Washington remains partially engaged. As ISI chief during 2018-19, Munir built rapport with US intelligence during the Afghan drawdown. That bond brought Pakistan $1.2 billion in US aid in 2024. But the relationship is fraying. Diplomats describe Munir as "unpredictable"—a general who may be useful against terror, but is increasingly volatile, especially as his ideological fervour grows.

Domestically, the economic situation is dismal. Pakistan's GDP contracted to $338 billion in 2024, down from $376 billion two years earlier. Inflation stands at 30 percent, foreign reserves have fallen to $8 billion, and the Pakistani rupee trades near 300 to the dollar. Debt servicing consumes 60 percent of the national budget. Over 40 percent of citizens live below the poverty line, and unemployment hovers at 8 percent. By contrast, India's 2024 GDP stands at $3.9 trillion, projected to cross $4.2 trillion in 2025, with foreign reserves of over $700 billion and inflation under 5 percent.

Pakistan, dependent on IMF bailouts totalling $7 billion in 2024, spends 16 percent of its budget on defence, more than double India's proportional allocation. Munir's militaristic mission ensures that these priorities will not shift. Development is deferred, democracy dismantled, and dissent destroyed. The army consumes not just the lion's share of the budget, but also the nation's political bandwidth, choking off civil discourse and smothering pluralism.

The irony is bitter. Pakistan, once envisioned as a homeland for South Asia's Muslims, has become a cautionary tale: a country where the military masquerades as saviour while dragging the nation into strategic stasis and economic ruin. Munir's crown is one of thorns. His sermons sanctify strife, his doctrine darkens diplomacy, and his elevation extinguishes any lingering hope of peace with India.

If Munir consolidates his power, Pakistan will spiral into a garrison state, its democracy a mirage, its people condemned to poverty and strife—a nation lost in the shadow of its marshal's sword. India's slick strikes and PM Modi's diplomatic swagger have totally outshined his big talk. For Field Marshal Munir's jihadi pipe-dream now trips over itself in a dark, moonless mess, with no Sylphora to save his sinking ship.

WHY FILMMAKERS CAN'T DO WITHOUT CANNES

OPINION

NAMRATA JOSHI
Consulting Editor
Follow her on X @Namrata_Joshi

I first met independent Assamese filmmaker Rima Das in 2017 at the *Marché du Film* or Cannes Film Market, when her second feature, *Village Rockstars,* was featured in the 'HAF Goes To Cannes' initiative. Having been part of the Hong Kong-Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF), it had made its way to the market's prestigious platform which provided Das the opportunity to look for post-production funds and pitch to sales agents and other festivals. Goes To Cannes, a tailor-made programme at the Cannes Film Market, aims to discover new-generation talents through their works-in-progress, selected and curated by partner festivals like the HAF.

Thanks to it, not only did Das get a great mentor in the famous editor, Jacques Comets, who guided her with the first cut of *Village Rockstars*, but found the world opening its door for her modest indie. The film played at hundreds of international festivals, thanks to the initial exposure at Cannes. At Toronto and San Sebastian, it was the first film from Northeast India to be featured in the official selection. It won the National Award for the best film in 2018 and represented India at the Oscars.

This year, the debut feature of Tribeny Rai, *Shape of Momo*, was showcased under the same section. Rai is from Sikkim and her Nepali-language film is set in her home state. She was looking for gap-financing, post-production funds and interactions with sales agents and festival programmers. Whether *Shape of Momo* will also follow the same trajectory of success as Das's film can't quite be predicted. But what's clear is the significance of the market for independent Indian filmmakers trying to strike their own course in the international arena, away from the claptrap and constraints of commercial Indian cinema.

Cannes is not just about the aesthetics and artistry of cinema, but also about the commerce that propels it. Held parallel to the festival, the Cannes Film Market is the biggest in the world. This year, it saw the participation of 15,000 professionals from 140 countries, platformed 250 events, 1,500 screenings and 4,000 films and projects. With labs and training sessions and targeted programmes like Producers Network, Streamers Forum, Investors Circle, Spotlight Asia, and Frontiéres Buyers Sowcase, it's not just about striking immediate deals, but about the interactions and meetings that can lead to partnerships in the future.

However, the Indian filmmaking fraternity, comfortable in its age-old ways, is yet to exploit such platforms to the fullest. To be fair, despite the industry's humongous size, the presence of Indian films has been too sporadic to catch any steady attention at the Cannes market.

The only consistent engagement has been governmental, through the India Pavilion, now called the Bharat Pavilion. The culture ministry uses it to pitch the International Film Festival of India and now the World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit to the world.

While the world focuses on the glitz at Cannes, filmmakers focus as much on the world's biggest film market that's held in parallel. It has been a great place for Indian indies to get guidance and a world audience. But the mainstream seems less interested

The ministry has also been aggressively pitching India as a welcoming and viable shooting destination. Roundtables with international festivals, market heads and film commissions, and evening networking events are aimed at providing opportunities to upcoming filmmakers. Ultimately, it can't just be a government effort, but about individuals down the film value chain—producers, studios, financers, distributors, exhibitors and, of course, filmmakers—to strategise.

This year, Neeraj Ghaywan's Un Certain Regard contender, *Homebound*, produced by Karan Johar's Dharma Productions with Martin Scorsese as executive producer, was jointly boarded by Paradise City Sales and WME Independent. Ad Vitam, a leading Paris-based distribution company, is releasing the movie in France.

A new initiative this year, powered by the Indian filmmaking community itself and aimed at helping young professionals, came from Oscar-winning producer Guneet Monga Kapoor. Three rising women producers from India—Tillotama Shome, Rucha Pathak and Dimpy Agarwal—were chosen for the fellowship programme of Women in Film, India chapter, that took them to Cannes to access the Producers Network at the film market. The idea was to provide mentorship and networking opportunities to them to make them understand the global financing and co-production scenario.

Ideally, the approach to the Cannes Film Market should not be about short-term gains, but a slow, steady and thought-through investment aimed at building an enviable cinematic portfolio in the long run.

QUOTE CORNER

Palestinians in Gaza are enduring what may be the cruellest phase of this conflict. For nearly 80 days, Israel blocked the entry of life-saving international aid... All the aid authorised until now amounts to a teaspoon when a flood of assistance is required.

António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General, on Friday

The Constitution is not in the business of compelling patriotism; it only steps in where speech constitutes incitement to violence or public disorder, not before.

Gautam Bhatia, legal scholar and author *The Transformative Constitution*

At one point, he stared me down. I was like, 'Ehhh, I don't want to end up in a TikTok edit,' so I backed off. Just trying to finish the season peacefully.

Pape Gueye, who plays for Villarreal, on facing Barcelona's prodigy Lamine Yamal in one of the season's last La Liga matches

MAILBAG WRITE TO letters@newindianexpress.com

Policy dilemma

Ref: *Indicators suggest room for rate cut despite RBI caution* (May 24). The central bank has been caught on the horns of a dilemma regarding the monetary policy. Core inflation is showing a mild uptrend while geopolitical constraints and US tariffs are affecting growth. Monetary easing may not spur growth in the present situation. But the rate cut cycle, which has started, should continue for long-term growth. The decisions require a futuristic vision.

Rajarao Kumar, Bengaluru

Southern comfort

Ref: *In south, fortunes head north* (May 24). It makes an interesting reading as to how, through osmotic north-to-south migration, things have moved from the days of 'Covid calamity'. The welfare schemes launched by the Kerala and Tamil Nadu governments for migrant workers to improve their living conditions and language skills, besides a breakfast scheme, should work as an eye-opener for other southern states to follow.

Ramalingeswara Rao, email

Future city

Ref: *Bengaluru civic revamp must engage citizens* (May 24). Prioritising the agenda to fix civic hurdles should precede any transformative action plan. A city offering shelter to 14 million people ought to have a robust mechanism to handle basic amenities, given the reputation of Bengaluru as the IT capital and a cherished destination for professionals. This city of the future—as Jawaharlal Nehru called it—demands a look-in for now and a long-term outlook for later.

Sachidananda Satpathy, Sambalpur

Bitter aftertaste

Ref: *Bitter lesson from sweets* (May 24). The report that a few sweet shops in Jaipur have renamed preparations ending with 'pak' with 'shree' amounts to cutting off one's nose to spite one's face. Do they think that the word 'Pakistan' can be rubbed away from Earth? Most often, overreaction leads to a loss of equanimity.

C G Kuriakose, Kothamangalam

Lived reality

Ref: *SC refrains from sentencing Pocso convict married to survivor* (May 24). The verdict was thoughtful. A man had been convicted for having sexual relationship with a 14-year-old girl. But the girl, now an adult, is married to him and have a child together. She told the court that punishing him would destroy her family. The court noted that while the act was legally a crime, the girl herself never saw it as one. It said that society judged her, the justice system failed her, and her own family abandoned her. This verdict shows that justice requires an understanding human emotions and the reality people live in.

Mohammad Asad, Mumbai

Honour conductor

Ref: *Conductor steers 11 to safety after driver dies behind the wheel* (May 24). The death of a 30-year-old bus driver from cardiac arrest on the job is unfortunate. But the timely intervention of the conductor in saving the lives of passengers is commendable. The conductor acted sensibly and showed his presence of mind. The local administration should honour him by recognising his act.

S Sankaranarayanan, Chennai

Unbalanced team

Ref: *New captain, stiffer challenge* (May 25). India's cricket team selection is a farce, as we failed to pick a balanced team again. Two left-arm spinners may prove to be a luxury, as we need a left-arm seamer to play in the swinging conditions in England. The usefulness of Axar was ignored. The openers' slot seems to be the weakest link as we tend to lose wickets early and the struggle for avoiding follow-on scares remains. We need a regular batsman in the place of Ravindra Jadeja. His recent failure with both bat and ball should be a cue to bring in someone like Sarfaraz Khan.

Jayanthy S Maniam, Mumbai

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Jairam Ramesh @Jairam_Ramesh
Today the Governing Council of the NITI Aayog meets under the chairmanship of the PM. It will reportedly review progress on the so-called Viksit Bharat goal.

Ashok Gehlot @ashokgehlot51
How long will this mafia rule continue in Rajasthan? The public is asking when will this scary game being played with the connivance of the police and administration stop?

Shivraj Singh Chouhan @ChouhanShivraj
Trees are synonymous with life...As part of the pledge to plant a tree every day, a tree was planted today at the Pusa Campus in New Delhi.

● Citing cross-border terror, India says Pak flouts spirit of Indus treaty ● Security meet focuses on travel routes

No talks on water-sharing pact, India clears air at UN

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

INDIA has rebutted Pakistan's claims at the United Nations regarding the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), accusing Islamabad of repeatedly violating the spirit of the agreement through decades of hostility, including wars and state-sponsored terrorism. India also said that the decades-old water-sharing pact is misaligned with present-day realities, including the urgent need for clean energy, impacts of climate change, and shifting demographic pressures.

"We are constrained to respond to the disinformation being carried out by the delegation of Pakistan with regard to the Indus Waters Treaty. India has always acted in a responsible manner as an upper riparian state," India's Permanent Representative to the UN, P Harish, said at a UN Security Council Arria Formula meeting on 'Protecting Water in Armed Conflict – Protecting Civilian Lives.'

Harish said the 1960 treaty, entered into in good faith, had been undermined by Pakistan's consistent aggression. "Pakistan has violated the spirit of the treaty by inflicting three wars and thousands of terror attacks on India," he said, referencing the Pahalgam terror attack that left 26 civilians dead.

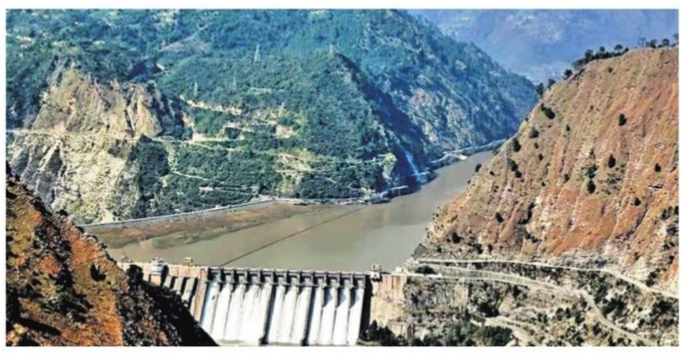
In response to that attack, India announced it would suspend the IWT until Pakistan "credibly and irrevocably" ends support for cross-border terrorism. "Pakistan's state-sponsored cross-border terrorism in India seeks to hold hostage the lives of civilians, religious harmony and economic prosperity," he said.

Harish said India had repeatedly asked Pakistan to renegotiate aspects of the treaty to reflect contemporary realities but Islamabad had refused. He also highlighted how modern dam infrastructure technology now ensures safer and more efficient operations, yet Pakistan continues to block any modifications.

He cited the 2012 terror attack on the Tulbul Navigation Project as another example of how terrorism threatens civilian infrastructure and lives.

Earlier at a separate UN Security Council open debate on the protection of civilians, Harish responded sharply to Pakistan's ambassador Asim Iftikhar Ahmad, who raised the Kashmir issue and recent Indo-Pakistani tensions.

Ministry of External Affairs too had reiterated before a parliamentary committee that India's decision to suspend the treaty was justified.



'Over 20K Indians killed due to terror attacks'

India's Permanent Representative to the UN, P Harish said that over the last 40 years, more than 20,000 Indian lives have been lost due to terror attacks originating from Pakistan. Harish said India had repeatedly asked Pakistan to renegotiate aspects of the treaty to reflect contemporary realities but Islamabad had refused.

Forces kept on toes amid intel alert on terror from B'desh

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

WITH intelligence inputs coming from Bangladesh on possible terror threat in India, the forces have been asked to ramp up security grid across land, air and water routes linked to the neighbouring country, which has been witnessing extremist activities amid political instability, sources said on Saturday.

It is learnt that after the intelligence inputs were shared with the government, a high-level security review meeting was held earlier this month and top officials of the central and state forces have been told to ramp up the security grid with a focus on the travel routes linked to Bangladesh.

Sources said the intelligence agencies in their report have highlighted the growing activities of the banned terror group Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB), which held a public rally in Dhaka, where support for Hamas was expressed amid the continuing Gaza battle and also the display of the terror outfit's flags.

There also emerged a JMB's Pakistan link in a recent operation by West Bengal Police. Three individuals connected to the outfit were arrested and further probe indicated they were active on the direction of handlers based in India's western neighbour, sources said.

According to sources, the Border Security Force, which guards India's borders with Bangladesh, has started the process of restructuring its deployment plan. It has stepped up patrols in prone regions, specifically in West Bengal, where porous borders are frequently exploited for infiltration.

The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) and local Police have been asked to heightened surveillance in and around airports in the region – West Bengal and North East – where flights from Bangladesh land. Instructions have been issued for increased checks and passenger scrutiny, they added.

Terming these measures as precautionary based on inputs about radicalised individuals' movements in border areas, the sources said, as diplomatic outreach intensifies and security dynamics evolve, India is resolute in its efforts in reinforcing its eastern flank against emerging threats.

SHUBMAN GILL

SHUB AARAMBH IN INDIAN CRICKET

GOMESH S

MANDAR PARDIKAR

SO here it is, in simple words, Shubman Gill is the new Test captain and face of Indian cricket at the global stage. There was not a tinge of surprise when his name was announced by chief selector Ajit Agarkar on Saturday. It may sound cliche, but the writing was on the wall when Rohit Sharma announced his retirement, and it was pretty clear that Jasprit Bumrah could not play five Tests on the trot.

Unlike some of the previous captains, Shubman is a product of India's rich hinterland. Farming background (unlike many the Gills were well-off), shifting pastures for better livelihood, driven by passion, pursuit of dream — a story of romance. The 25-year-old was born in a small and nondescript village called Chak Khere Wala in Fazilka district of Punjab, close to the India-Pakistan border. A small speck on the India map. Not anymore, though. As the lore of Shumban grew, so did the name of the village and Fazilka.

Shubman's backroom story is connected with his father Lakhwinder Singh, who was obsessed with the game. He too wanted to be a cricketer but somehow could not. With his son, he could dream again. He was his first coach and taught him to bat at a very young age. Singh, along with the people who tended his farm, used to bowl hundreds of balls every day on a cement pitch prepared for his son in the front yard. What started as a mission for Lakhwinder soon became Shubman's life. They understood the need to move to a bigger city and that prompted them to shift to Mohali. Shubman was just seven then. The routine and the hours Shubman put in only increased, and it was not long before the lean teenager had marked his territory in age-group cricket. His appetite to bat, bat and bat meant Shubman broke several records and won the BCCI U-14 cricketer of the year in 2013-14. In that same season, Kohli - the then-anointed prince - had won the cricketer of the year, and there is a picture of a shy, young Shubman standing next to the former India captain.

There was no looking back as Shubman went on to win the 2018 U19 World Cup as a player, and soon he was in the senior India team. All the years of facing throwdowns on cement pitches came to the fore as Shubman's 91 in the famous 2021 Gabba win against Australia in his debut series lifted his stature from a nervy youngster to the future of Indian cricket. He has had his share of ups and downs in the longest format, and is perhaps yet to seal a spot in T20Is, but in ODIs, Shubman is a beast and was appointed Rohit Sharma's deputy earlier this year. Even in the IPL, Shubman has shown massive strides as Gujarat Titans captain in the ongoing season. Captaining a side is an art and Shubman is slowly making his mark in the artistry.

Even though his Test record, especially away, is not phenomenally impressive, the selectors have reposed faith in him. They know he will be there through the next decade and will take Indian cricket forward even if there are some ups and downs along the way. Chief selector Ajit Agarkar said as much on Saturday. "I think over the last year or so, we've looked at Shubman at various times," said Agarkar. "I think even when we played England last year. We take a lot of feedback, sometimes from the dressing room as well. He's very young, but we've seen the improvement. And I know it's T20 cricket for GT as well, but you take feedback from a lot of people, and we are hopeful that he's the guy who can... (take us forward). It's obviously going to be a high-pressure job, but we're hopeful that we've picked the right guy. There's no doubt it is going to be as tough as it gets leading a five-match series in England, and maybe you'll have to learn on the job a little bit. But we are very confident with what he has to offer, and that's the reason we've picked him. I think he's a terrific player, and best wishes to him."

NEWSMAKER

There is a bit of history too. Gill, in fact, is the first cricketer from united Punjab - before 1967-68, they were split into three teams; Southern Punjab, Eastern Punjab and Northern Punjab - to be honoured with captaining India in red-ball cricket.

Not since Lala Amarnath in the late 1940s and early 1950s, a cricketer who plays for Punjab has become a Test captain. Several legends have been born in Punjab and gone on to bring many laurels for the country, including the late Bishen Singh Bedi. But Bedi became India captain long after he had moved to Delhi in the Ranji Trophy.

While there is no confirmation on whether he will walk out at No. 4, one thing is clear though, when Shubman walks onto the field at Leeds on June 20, wearing the India blazer, it will mark the beginning of a new chapter in Indian cricketing history.

Made-in-Philippines new rice variety rolled out in east India to boost output

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

THE Centre has introduced a new high-yielding paddy variety, developed from two varieties in the Philippines, to farmers in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Odisha, in an initiative to boost rice production. According to experts, the new variety, 'Malaviya Manila Sinchit Dhan-1' (MMSD), has the potential to transform rice cultivation in eastern India, where productivity has stagnated.

After nearly 18 years of research, the drought-resistant and high-yielding MMSD variety was developed through a collaboration between the Banaras Hindu University (BHU) and the International Rice Research Institute in Manila. The productivity of this new variety surpasses that of conventional varieties. Additionally, it matures early and has a strong stem that allows it to withstand wind and drought conditions.

"The productivity of the variety is 55-64 quintals per hectare, double the average productivity in India. It increases production by 5-10% over normal varieties," Dr Shravan Kumar Singh, BHU's lead scientist who developed the variety said. India's average rice production is nearly 29 quintals. "Maturity time of the variety is 115-120 days against 135-150 of normal varieties," said Singh.

Scientists used two IR-series rice varieties, indigenous to the Philippines, to develop MMSD. IR-8, famous variety of the IR series, was considered 'miracle rice' in the 1970s. It helped increase global food production to counter hunger.

According to the ICAR assessment, MMSD has an encouraging response in Bihar, UP and Odisha. Grain production was higher than 10% in these states compared to others. This early variety takes 115 days to ripen, and grain quality is better than the existing variety, which would help fetch higher prices to growers.

"During the de-husking, hulling, and milling process, head rice (whole rice) recovery percentage is 63.5%, whereas conventional rice gets more broken and reduces market value," said Singh.

Three Oppn CMs, two NDA allies give Niti Aayog meeting a skip

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

THREE Chief Ministers from Opposition states and two NDA-allies were absent from the 10th Governing Council meeting of NITI Aayog held in New Delhi chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday.

The Opposition CMs who gave a miss include West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan.

From the NDA camp, Bihar CM Nitish Kumar and Puducherry CM N Rangasamy were conspicuous by their absence. The absence of JD (U)'s Nitish Kumar, a crucial ally of the NDA government sparked speculation and criticism from Congress party and RJD, who termed it as indicative of a deeper political message.

"Bihar is neither in autopilot nor in pilot mode. We keep hearing daily about incidents of loot and murder. In such a situation, the CM not attending a key national development meeting is troubling," said RJD leader Manoj Jha.

An official source confirmed CM Rangasamy, who leads the AINRC-led NDA coalition in Union Territory Puducherry's absence, but did not disclose the reason.

While there is no official intimation from the West Bengal government on Banerjee's absence, it should be recalled that she had walked out of the NITI Aayog's meeting in July last year, claiming that she was allowed to speak only for five minutes. Banerjee alleged that NDA CMs were given 15 minutes to speak.

Sources said that Kerala CM could not attend the meeting as he was occupied with the fourth year celebrations of the LDF government. The Chief Minister was not boycotting the meeting and had deputed Finance Minister K N Balagopal to attend the meeting on his behalf, said sources. However, the event was designated for only chief ministers.

Congress-ruled Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah cited a "prior engagement" in the state and sent his speech to be read out at the council.

However, the CMs of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana N Chandrababu Naidu, MK Stalin, and A Revanth Reddy attended the meeting to present their respective states' concerns before the council.

Tamil Nadu CM M. K. Stalin defended his decision to participate this year. Amid criticism from opposition party AIADMK, which questioned his motives, Stalin stated he was attending to assert the "fair financial rights of Tamil Nadu". "I will be firm on the ideology! I will get funds for Tamil Nadu through struggle," he said. AIADMK leader Edappadi K. Palaniswami had earlier alleged that Stalin's Delhi visit was driven by personal interests.

While the 10th Governing Council meeting of NITI Aayog was held under the theme Viksit Bharat@2047', Congress termed it as 'Ayogya body' and a exercise in hypocrisy and diversion.

ASI all set to launch 3rd round of exploration at Dwarka during winter

PARVEZ SULTAN @ New Delhi

THE Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is preparing for a third phase of exploration at the ancient submerged sites of Dwarka and Beyt Dwarka, located along the coastal region of Gujarat. These sites are associated with Lord Krishna and hold significant mythological and historical importance. The round of underwater excavation and site cleaning is tentatively scheduled to begin around October–November, a period when the sea conditions are relatively calm, making it conducive for marine archaeological work.

ADG Professor Alok Tripathi and head of Underwater Archaeology Wing (UAW) of ASI said that exploration activities in Dwarka were on halt because summers are not an idle situation to carry on the work.

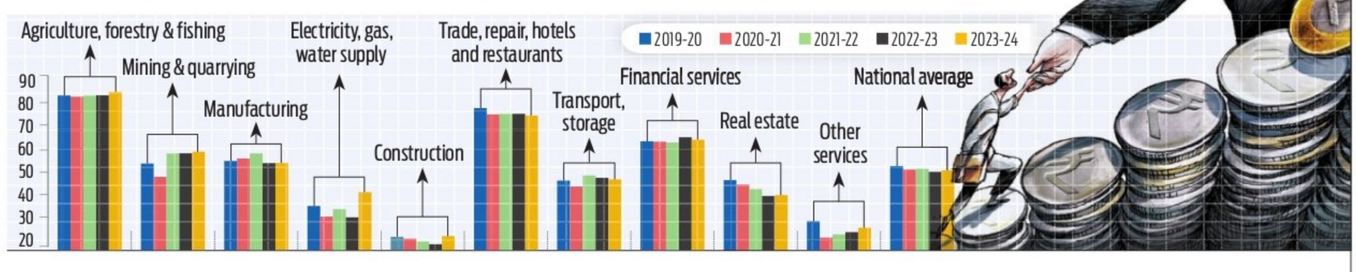
"In summer, the sea is rough. In winter, the sea will be calm. We will undertake a survey of the whole area and may go for excavation thereafter. We will need to clean the site because vegetation has grown and sand is pressed," said Tripathi.

Meanwhile, the survey has initiated outreach to archaeology departments, museum authorities, and other institutions engaged in archaeological exploration and research to encourage participation in its underwater archaeology training programme. The selected participants after completing the training module will be roped in the investigation of submerged sites in Gujarat.

According to the officials, many people have expressed their interest in field work led by UAW but finding suitable persons is always a challenge. "There are divers, one from the army. They are keen to work. There are other independent people, want to come and join. But a lot of people have sea sickness. The situation is different when one is exposed to the sea," said officials.

The ASI is focused on training the next generation of archaeologists in underwater exploration techniques.

WAGE SHARE DIPS AS PROFIT SHARE RISES IN INDIA'S GVA: NAS DATA



VISMAY BASU @ New Delhi

NEW estimates from the National Accounts of Statistics (NAS) show a slight increase in workers' compensation as a share of Gross Value Added (GVA), but a sharper and more sustained rise in profits over the past five years.

GVA is calculated by adding compensation to employees, consumption of fixed capital, and operating surplus/mixed income, and then subtracting production taxes and adding subsidies. Among these, the operating surplus—essentially business profits—has grown significantly across most key sectors, including agriculture, mining, electricity, transport, and financial services.

This rise in profits, however, has not translated into a consistent rise in wages. Nationally, the share of employee compensation in GVA dropped from 53.5% in 2019–20 to 51.85% in 2023–24. While compensation remained around one-third of GVA overall, it actually fell between 2022–23 and 2023–24. The biggest drop in wage share was seen in the electricity, gas, and water supply sector, followed by mining and quarrying. On the other hand, the real estate sector saw a small rise in compensation share, but the construction sector experienced a notable decline.

This trend points to a shrinking wage bill alongside rising profits—raising concerns over growing inequality and weakening consumer demand. Economists often caution that such patterns, while possibly beneficial for short-term investment and inflation control, can reduce job creation and hurt overall employment growth.

Adding to these concerns, the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), an independent data agency, recently reported a dip in consumer sentiment, suggesting a potential slowdown in demand.

HEINOUS ACT

A 30-year-old man has been arrested for sexually assaulting a horse at a riding academy in Maharashtra's Nagpur district, police said on Saturday.

3 HURT IN LEOPARD ATTACK IN UP'S VARANASI

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	40	30	Mumbai	31	27
Bhopal	34	26	Panaji	31	28
Jaipur	38	32	Patna	31	26
Amritsar	37	27	Lucknow	34	28
Chennai	34	29	Port Blair	27	26
Kolkata	31	27	Imphal	26	22
Srinagar	27	14	Chandigarh	34	27

Suspect passed videos of Navy installations to a Pakistani handler ● Jyoti Malhotra had visited Kashmir before Pahalgam terror attack

Intruder shot dead, 1 held for Pak spying in Gujarat

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA
@ Ahmedabad

THE BSF shot dead a Pakistani intruder attempting to enter from the India-Pakistan border in Gujarat's Banaskantha district late Friday night.

In another development, Gujarat Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) has arrested a 28-year-old health worker from the border district of Kutch for his alleged links to an espionage network run by Pakistani intelligence operatives.

The accused, Sahdevsinh Deepubha Gohil, a multipurpose health worker posted at Mata-na-Madh PHC, was taken into custody after investigators discovered that he had allegedly passed classified photographs and videos of BSF and Indian Navy installations to a handler identified only as "Aditi Bharadwaj" — an alias used by a Pakistani intelligence agent, ATS said on Saturday.

Gohil came into contact with "Aditi Bharadwaj" via WhatsApp around June or July 2023, after which he was groomed into leaking sensitive content, including images of under-construction and recently completed military facilities in Kutch.

"In January 2025, Gohil reportedly procured a new SIM card using his Aadhaar ID, activated WhatsApp, and handed over the device to the handler, continuing to transmit sensitive data. Investigators say he was paid ₹40,000 in cash through an intermediary for his services to the foreign agency," the statement said.

The arrest followed a coordinated surveillance operation combining technical intelligence and human sources, with corroboration from central intelligence agencies.

According to ATS officials, the arrest followed a coordinated surveillance operation combining technical intelligence and human sources, with corroboration from central intelligence agencies. In a press briefing on Saturday, ATS revealed that Gohil and his handler have been booked under Sections 61 and 148 of the BNS. Investigators are now trying to recover deleted data from Gohil's mobile phone, which has been sent for forensic analysis.

The Kutch arrest is the third in Gujarat's growing espionage chain. On November 29, 2024, ATS nabbed Dipesh Batuk Gohel from Devbhoomi Dwarka for leaking Indian Coast Guard intel to a Facebook contact "Sahima," posing as a Pakistani naval officer, in exchange for ₹42,000. On October 26, Pankaj Kotiya was arrested in Porbandar for passing ship movement data to a Pakistan-based handler "Riya," allegedly receiving ₹26,000.

In a statement on Saturday, the BSF confirmed the shooting of the intruder. The forces acted after troops spotted the suspect advancing toward the border fence. "Alert BSF troops successfully neutralised a Pakistani intruder who was attempting to infiltrate Indian territory in the Banaskantha district of Gujarat on the night of May 23," the BSF release stated.

Raj, J&K police question Hisar YouTuber in spy case

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

THE Jammu and Kashmir and Rajasthan police have questioned YouTuber Jyoti Malhotra arrested for allegedly spying for Pakistan's ISI, after it was revealed that she had visited Kashmir some time before the Pahalgam attack and also made videos of sensitive areas along the Indo-Pak international border in Rajasthan, sources said.

"The police teams of these states want to question her further. Presently she is in custody of Hisar police for four days. Investigators from other states and central agencies have also been questioning her," an officer said on condition of anonymity, but did not disclose what transpired during the interrogation.

Sources said the police teams from J&K and Rajasthan earlier submitted a list of questions to the Civil Lines police. The other agencies are also in contact with the Hisar police.

Meanwhile, Jyoti's father Harish Malhotra said he was unable to meet her during the appearance in the court on Friday. "I was told that she would be produced in court, so I went there. But by the time I reached the venue, she had been taken away," he told the media.

A team of Madhya Pradesh police came to Hisar and questioned Jyoti after getting information that she had visited the Mahakaleshwar temple in Ujjain in April last year.

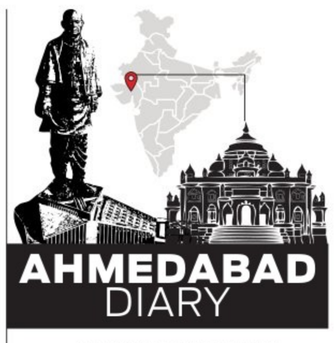
During her court appearance, Jyoti informed the judge that she had not appointed any private lawyer for her defence. In response, the court directed the Defence Legal Aid Counsel (DLAC) to provide her with legal assistance.

DLAC-affiliated lawyers, who were already present, argued in her defence. Earlier, a team of Madhya Pradesh police came to Hisar and questioned Jyoti after getting information that she had visited the Mahakaleshwar temple dedicated to Lord Shiva in Ujjain in April last year.

A widening espionage net led to 10 arrests across Haryana and Punjab in over two weeks, with the latest being Jyoti. She runs a YouTube channel called Travel with Jo. She has 3.77 lakh subscribers on YouTube and 1.32 lakh followers on Instagram, and has also posted videos about her travel to Pakistan in March this year. She has been booked under Sections 3 and 5 of the Official Secrets Act and Section 152 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) on the complaint of Sub-Inspector Bijender Singh at the Civil Lines Police Station.

Jyoti came in contact with Ehsan-ur-Rahim alias Danish, a staffer at the Pakistan High Commission in New Delhi. She visited Pakistan twice in 2023, and Danish allegedly acted as her handler, introducing her to ISI operatives and maintaining regular contact.

"She revealed that during her visit to Pakistan in 2023, she met Ali Ehwan, who arranged her stay and travel. Ehwan introduced her to Pakistani security and intelligence officials," the FIR stated.



DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA
Our correspondent in Gujarat
dilipsingh@newindianexpress.com

Calls for Khabad to quit grow amid NREGA scam

The arrest of Gujarat minister Bhachubhai Khabad's two sons in a ₹75-crore MGNREGA scam has kicked up a political storm in the state. The scandal has put the saffron party-led government in the firing line of the Congress. As news of the arrest broke out, leaders of the grand old party were quick to question PM Narendra Modi's hardline anti-corruption stance and his pledge of 'Na khaunga, na khane dunga'. They also rued how people in power have been brazenly siphoning off funds meant for public welfare. Ahead of the PM's Gujarat visit, the Congress party has sought time for an audience with Modi to discuss the matter.

Cong flags inordinate delay in panchayat polls

The Congress has sharply criticised the BJP-led Gujarat government and State Election Commission for delaying elections in over 5,400 panchayats, describing it as a direct attack on democracy. Congress spokesperson Manish Doshi has accused the state government of using the 'One Nation, One Election' narrative to stall local polls, leaving rural areas without elected representatives for three years. Leaders of the grand old party say the inordinate delay violates constitutional norms, as elections are supposed to be held within six months of the end of a panchayat's term. He also alleged corruption in MGNREGA and Nal Se Jal schemes.

SC MLA from Saurashtra to be Gujarat BJP chief?

For months, the Gujarat BJP has struggled to appoint a new state president, entangled in caste equations and ideological friction. According to party insiders, the RSS is firm on choosing a loyalist, while the BJP leadership seeks a candidate with consensus. Amid internal pressure from party bigwigs like Amit Shah, Anandiben Patel, and CR Patil, an SC MLA from Saurashtra has emerged as the frontrunner. His squeaky clean image and deep organisational connect have bolstered his chances. Sources indicate an announcement in this regard may be made within 72 hours, possibly reshaping the saffron party's caste strategy in Gujarat.

2 Maoists killed in gunfight with J'khand police

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

IN a significant development, two maoists, including the Jharkhand Jan Mukti Parishad (JJMP) supremo Pappu Lohara and his associate Prabhat Lohra, were killed in a police encounter in the Ichabar forests of Latehar on Saturday morning.

According to the police, a third Maoist is also believed to have been killed in the exchange of fire, although his body has yet to be recovered.

JJMP, a Maoist outfit, has been particularly active in Latehar and the adjoining districts of Jharkhand.

A police constable, Awadh Singh, sustained injuries during the encounter and has been admitted to the Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences in Ranchi. The operation was carried out under the leadership of Latehar SP Kumar Gaurav, following a tip-off indicating that a group of Maoists was hiding in the forests and planning an attack. The police cordoned off the area and commenced a search operation.

The Maoists opened fire on the joint team of security personnel. The forces retaliated, resulting in the deaths of Pappu Lohara and Prabhat Lohra.

Meitei flag atop Shirui peak in Naga-majority district triggers uproar

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

A controversy has erupted in Manipur over the "hoisting" of the Meitei flag atop the Shirui peak in Ukhrul, allegedly by Meitei radical group Arambai Tenggol during the ongoing Shirui Lily festival in the Naga-majority district.

Ukhrul is the home to Tangkhul Nagas who revere the Shirui Hill. Most major rivers in the region originate from the Shirui peak, located at an altitude of 2,835 metres. The festival is a solemn celebration of Manipur's state flower Shirui Lily. In a viral video, a group of youths can be seen holding the flag and heard chanting slogans including 'long live Manipur.' The place could not be ascertained.

The Tangkhul Naga Long (TNL) said it was an utterly "disgraceful and despicable" attempt by Arambai Tenggol to tarnish and obfuscate the spirit and meaning of the festival for petty and dirty political gains at a wrong place and time. The Tangkhul Katamnao Saklong, apex body of Tangkhul students, said the festival embodies peace, ecological consciousness and cultural pride.

"It is, therefore, an act of grave provocation that individuals, reportedly affiliated with the Arambai Tenggol, specifically a faction identifying itself as the Cobra Team – Unit 58, hoisted the Meitei flag…" the student body said.

The National Socialist Council of Nagalim (NSCN-IM) lamented that Arambai Tenggol courted a controversy with an unfounded narrative. The NSCN-IM said the "Salai Taret" flag has no connection with the Tangkhuls in any manner; culturally, historically or politically. It has demanded an apology from the Meitei group.

Video of incident viral

In a viral video, a group of youths can be seen holding the flag and heard chanting slogans including 'Long live Manipur.' The location could not be ascertained. The Tangkhul Naga Long said it was an utterly "disgraceful and despicable" attempt by Arambai Tenggol to tarnish and obfuscate the spirit and meaning of the festival for dirty political gains.

BJP MP seeks 'Turkeywad', 'Pak' out from Surat map

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA
@ Ahmedabad

AMID escalating tensions between India and Pakistan, backlash is now spilling over to Turkey—Islamabad's vocal ally—fueling nationalist pushback on home soil.

In Gujarat's Surat city, local fury has turned toward neighbourhoods long bearing names like 'Turkeywad,' 'Pakistan,' and 'Bangladesh.' Riding this wave of sentiment, the Surat BJP MP has formally urged the Municipal Commissioner to erase these names, pressing the Surat Municipal Corporation to strip any symbolic trace of nations now under public ire.

In a letter, Lok Sabha MP Mukesh Dalal stated, "Generally, there is some history behind the naming of streets, neighborhoods, main roads or settlements in cities. These names often reflect the historical, geographical, or cultural identity of the area. They are typically named after great personalities of the nation, state, or city—socio-political leaders or national martyrs—with the intent that future generations should recognize and remember them for their contributions."

Jaipur sweet shops drop 'Pak' from product names

Amid the tensions between India and Pakistan, a curious trend has emerged in Jaipur's sweet shops. Several shop owners have begun renaming traditional Indian sweets by replacing the word 'Pak' with 'Shri', citing sentiments of nationalism. Sweets such as Moti Pak, Aam Pak and Gond Pak are now being rebranded as Moti Shri, Aam Shri and Gond Shri.

A list should be prepared of all areas in city that bear names of enemy countries like Turkiye, Pak or Bangladesh. These names must be removed and replaced with nationalist names. —Mukesh Dalal, LS MP

Expressing concern over certain place names in Surat, he added, "It is sad and surprising that many areas of Surat city are known by names associated with countries that are considered enemies of India. Why should we allow names that reflect nations which promote and support terrorism against India, encourage fanatical communalism, create instability, and pose a threat to the unity and integrity of our country?"

In his letter, Lok Sabha MP Mukesh Dalal wrote, "Today, many areas in the city are known by the names of enemy countries like Turkeywad, Bangladesh, and Pakistan. This is an insult to the brave soldiers of our country and to the people of Surat."

Referring to recent events, he added, "On one hand, after the cowardly act committed by terrorists loyal to Pakistan in Pahalgam, the brave soldiers of our nation—under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi—are showing immense courage by eliminating terrorists and destroying their bases. On the other hand, allowing such names in Surat city is completely unacceptable." Dalal has demanded immediate action.

Punjab, HP take water row to NITI Aayog meet

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

TAKING part in the meeting of the 10th Governing Council of the Niti Aayog on Saturday, chief ministers of Punjab and Himachal Pradesh raised the water issue.

Mann flagged that the state has no surplus water for any state and raised the issue of deployment of CISF at the Bhakra Nangal Dam. He alleged that Punjab is getting a step motherly treatment from the Centre. Sukhu pleaded for state's rights in hydro power projects, and raised the issue of free royalty and handing over the projects which had completed 40 years.

Mann said that in the wake of the grim water situation in the state, the Yamuna-Sutlej Link (YSL) canal should be considered for construction instead of the Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL) canal. He said the Ravi, Beas and Sutlej rivers are already in deficit and water should be diverted from surplus to deficit basins.

No surplus water for other states, says CM Mann

Mann flagged that the state has no surplus water for any state and raised the issue of deployment of CISF at the Bhakra Nangal Dam. He alleged that Punjab is getting a stepmotherly treatment from Centre. Meanwhile, Sukhu pleaded for state's rights in hydro power projects.

He said Punjab has repeatedly requested to be included in negotiations for the allocation of Yamuna waters as a pact for the Yamuna-Sutlej Link project was signed between the undivided Punjab and Uttar Pradesh on March 12, 1954, which entitled the erstwhile Punjab to two-thirds of the Yamuna waters.

Mann said the agreement did not specify any particular area to be irrigated by Yamuna waters, adding that before the re-organization, the Yamuna river, like the Ravi and Beas, flowed through the erstwhile Punjab. He lamented that while apportioning the river waters between Punjab and Haryana, the Yamuna waters were not considered, whereas the waters of Ravi and Beas were duly taken into account. Sukhu raised the issue that royalty aligned with the Himachal government's energy policy. He said the policy mandates 12 per cent royalty for the first 12 years, 18 per cent for subsequent 18 years and 30 per cent for the next 10 years in the power projects. He said private companies already comply with this policy, emphasizing that central PSUs should also follow it.

He said special needs of the hill states should be considered for higher allocation of funds. Calling for relaxation in eligibility criteria in schemes, Sukhu demanded release of funds due to the state.

After SC nod to Banke Bihari Corridor, Vrindavan religious antiquity at stake

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

THE ₹600-crore Banke Bihari Corridor in Vrindavan for which the Uttar Pradesh government got the 'go-ahead' from Supreme Court of India recently, is still facing opposition. Locals fear that the project will compromise heritage and religious antiquity of Vrindavan.

The Supreme Court has allowed the Uttar Pradesh government to use temple funds for land acquisition to build the corridor, a project envisaged with an aim to ease crowd pressure around the temple.

While the state government claims it will help pilgrims' movement and improve their safety saving them from stampede like situations, locals fear the project will damage Vrindavan's spiritual and cultural heritage.

Over 300 buildings may have to be demolished to carve out the corridor, say the locals.

Pilgrimage towns in need of wider roads: Court

The court observed that Mathura and Vrindavan are ancient pilgrimage towns that need wider roads, adequate parking, guest houses and improved public amenities. Officials have already started a survey of 300 houses and 100 shops around the temple.

The Supreme Court allowed the state government to use Rs 500 crore from the temple's funds to acquire land. The acquired land will be in the name of the deity or temple trust. The apex court also allowed the authorities to acquire up to five acres of land around the temple for the project.

The division bench of the apex court, comprising Justice Bela M Trivedi and Justice Satish Chandra Sharma, said in the order that the land acquired for the corridor would be registered in the name of the temple deity, that is, Banke Bihari, or the managing trust.

The court, in the order, made it clear that the approval for the corridor project was being given, keeping the stampede of 2022 in mind. It may be recalled that two devotees had died due to suffocation and several others were left injured after being caught in the crowd, which had swollen much beyond the capacity of the temple premises.

8 killed as fire tears through Nairobi informal settlement

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	26	11	LC	Los Angeles	17	10	SNY
Colombo	32	25	TDS	Melbourne	18	13	LC
Dhaka	34	27	LC	Moscow	5	0	LC
Dubai	42	31	SNY	New York	14	6	LR
Houston	30	22	LC	Singapore	31	25	TDS
Istanbul	17	12	LR	Toronto	8	1	LC
London	17	8	SNY	Washington	23	8	TDS

Massive Russian drone and missile strikes on Kyiv amid prisoner swap

Ukraine's air force says at least 15 injured in attack by 14 ballistic missiles and 250 drones

KYIV

A massive Russian drone and missile attack on Kyiv Saturday wounded at least 15 people, even as Russia and Ukraine continued the biggest prisoner swap since the start of Moscow's invasion.

Ukraine's air force said Russia launched 14 ballistic missiles and 250 attack drones overnight, adding that it downed six missiles and 245 drones.

Kyiv was "the main target of the enemy attack", the air force said in a statement.

"With each such attack, the world becomes more certain that the cause of prolonging the war lies in Moscow," Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said on X.

"Only additional sanctions targeting key sectors of the Russian economy will force Moscow to cease fire," he said.

A local resident looks out of the window of his flat in a multistorey residential building, damaged following a massive Russian drone and missile attack on Kyiv that wounded at least 15 people | AFP

Kyiv city officials reported fires and fallen debris in several parts of the Ukrainian capital, after AFP journalists heard explosions overnight.

Officials said 15 people were injured in Kyiv itself and five civilians were killed by Russian strikes in the Kharkiv and Donetsk regions.

The Russian military meanwhile said Ukraine had targeted it with 788 drones and missiles since Tuesday. Dozens of drones targeting Moscow have been shot down over the past week. The attack on Kyiv came hours after Russia and Ukraine completed the first stage of a prisoner exchange agreed at talks last week in Istanbul and just before the second stage on Saturday.

Russia's defence ministry said each side exchanged 307 prisoners of war on Saturday via Belarus, a Kremlin ally.

It said the Russian POWs would receive psychological and medical help in Belarus before travelling on to Russia.

Both sides received 390 people in the first stage on Friday and are expected to exchange 1,000 each in total.

"We expect the exchange to continue tomorrow," Zelensky said. Russia has signalled it will send Ukraine its terms for a peace settlement after the swap, which is set to continue over the weekend — without saying what those terms would be. *AFP*

FIFTH ROUND OF OMAN-MEDIATED TALKS HELD IN ROME

Long-time adversaries Iran and the US met for a fifth round of nuclear talks

No breakthrough reported, but both sides called the meeting "constructive"

MAIN OBSTACLES TO PROGRESS

US demands zero enrichment, calling it a red line

Iran says enrichment is non-negotiable and essential for civilian use

Iran enriches up to **60%** — below weapons-grade (90%) but above 2015 deal's **3.67%**

Sticking points in Iran-US nuclear dialogue with Omani mediation

Both sides have agreed to continue talks, though progress remains strained by clashing red lines, mutual distrust and external pressures

CONTRADICTORY POSITIONS

Iran wants talks to focus only on nuke issues and US sanctions. US hints at broader concerns like missile programmes and regional armed groups

Tehran opposes inclusion of non-nuclear issues in talks

SANCTIONS

US imposed fresh sanctions before talks, targeting construction, oil, and gas sectors

Iran calls sanctions "hostile" and questions US commitment to diplomacy

MILITARY THREATS

Trump warned of military action if talks fail. Iran warned of consequences, comparing potential US action to Vietnam and Afghanistan. Israeli strike threats increase regional tensions

Trump signs executive orders to boost nuclear power and speed up approvals

WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Donald Trump signed executive orders Friday intended to quadruple domestic production of nuclear power within the next 25 years, a goal experts say the United States is highly unlikely to reach.

To speed up the development of nuclear power, the orders grant the US energy secretary authority to approve some advanced reactor designs and projects, taking authority away from the independent safety agency that has regulated the US nuclear industry for five decades.

The order comes as demand for electricity surges amid a boom in energy-hungry data centers and artificial intelligence. Tech companies, venture capitalists, states and others are competing for electricity and straining the nation's electric grid.

President Donald Trump signs an executive order regarding reinvigorating the nuclear industrial base, in the Oval Office of the White House | AP

"We've got enough electricity to win the AI arms race with China," Interior Secretary Doug Burgum said. "What we do in the next five years related to electricity is going to determine the next 50" years in the industry. Still, it's unlikely the US could quadruple its nuclear production in the time frame the White House specified. The United States lacks any next-generation reactors operating commercially and only two new large reactors have been built from scratch in nearly 50 years. Those two reactors, at a nuclear plant in Georgia, were completed years late and at least $17 billion over budget.

The nation's 94 nuclear reactors supply about 19% of U.S. electricity, compared to about 60% for fossil fuels and 21% for renewables, according to the US Energy Information Administration. At the Oval Office signing, Trump, surrounded by industry executives, called nuclear a "hot industry," adding, "It's time for nuclear, and we're going to do it very big."

Burgum and other speakers said the industry has stagnated and has been choked by overregulation.

SECURITY LEAKS

HEGSETH ORDERS CURBS ON PRESS AT PENTAGON

WASHINGTON

BEDEVILED by leaks to the media during his short tenure, Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth issued a series of restrictions on the press late Friday that include banning reporters from entering wide swaths of the Pentagon without a government escort — areas where the press has had access in past administrations as it covers the activities of the world's most powerful military.

Newly restricted areas include his office and those of his top aides and all of the different locations across the mammoth building where the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Space Force maintain press offices.

The media will also be barred from offices of the Pentagon's senior military leadership, including Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Dan Caine, without Hegseth's approval and an escort from his aides. The staff of the Joint Chiefs has traditionally maintained a good relationship with the press.

Hegseth, the former Fox News Channel personality, issued his order via a posting on X late on a Friday afternoon before a holiday weekend. He said it was necessary for national security. "While the department remains committed to transparency, the department is equally obligated to protect (classified intelligence information) and sensitive information, the unauthorised disclosure of which could put the lives of U.S. service members in danger," wrote Hegseth. *AP*

Trump takes first steps in easing Syria sanctions

WASHINGTON

THE Trump administration granted Syria sweeping exemptions from sanctions Friday in a big first step toward fulfilling the president's pledge to lift a half-century of penalties on a country shattered by 13 years of civil war.

While broad, the administration's actions could possibly be reversed. Syrians say they need permanent relief to secure the tens of billions of dollars in investment needed to rebuild after a conflict that fragmented the country, displaced or killed millions of people, and left behind thousands of foreign fighters.

A measure by the State Department waived for six months a tough set of sanctions imposed by Congress in 2019.

A Treasury Department action suspended enforcement of sanctions against anyone doing business with a range of Syrian individuals and entities, including Syria's central bank.

Syria is now led by Ahmad al-Sharaa, a former militia commander who helped drive longtime autocratic leader Bashar Assad from power late last year.

President Donald Trump announced last week that the U.S. would roll back the heavy financial penalties in a bid to give the interim government a better chance of survival. The Trump administration said businesses and investors are getting the protection against sanctions they need to come back to Syria, calling it "the opportunity for a fresh start." "The only other option was Syria becoming a failed state and civil war," said Mouaz Moustafa, a Syrian American advocate who had campaigned for quick, broad relief. "Now there is hope for a future democratic Syria."

The Caesar Syria Civilian Protection Act aimed to isolate Syria's former rulers by deterring global business ties. Though reconstruction sanctions can be waived for 180 days, investors remain cautious, fearing their return. *AP*

Soldiers in Gaza say Israel use human shields systematically

TEL AVIV

THE only time the Palestinian man wasn't bound or blindfolded, he said, was when he was used by Israeli soldiers as their human shield.

Dressed in army fatigues with a camera fixed to his forehead, Ayman Abu Hamadan was forced into houses in the Gaza Strip to make sure they were clear of bombs and gunmen, he said. When one unit finished with him, he was passed to the next.

"They beat me and told me: 'You have no other option; do this or we'll kill you,'" the 36-year-old told The Associated Press, describing the 2 1/2 weeks he was held last summer by the Israeli military in northern Gaza.

Orders often came from the top, and at times nearly every platoon used a Palestinian to clear locations, said an Israeli officer, speaking on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisal.

Several Palestinians and soldiers told the AP that Israeli troops are systematically forcing Palestinians to act as human shields in Gaza, sending them into buildings and tunnels to check for explosives or militants. The dangerous practice has become ubiquitous during 19 months of war, they said. In response to these allegations, Israel's military says it strictly prohibits using civilians as shields — a practice it has long accused Hamas of using in Gaza. Israeli officials blame the militants for the civilian death toll in its offensive that has killed tens of thousands of Palestinians.

A Palestinian man carries items he salvaged from a house targeted in an Israeli strike at the Nuseirat camp for refugees in the central Gaza Strip | AFP

In a statement to the AP, the military said it also bans otherwise coercing civilians to participate in operations, and "all such orders are routinely emphasized to the forces."

The military said it's investigating several cases alleging that Palestinians were involved in missions, but wouldn't provide details. It didn't answer questions about the reach of the practice or any orders from commanding officers.

The AP spoke with seven Palestinians who described being used as shields in Gaza and the occupied West Bank and with two members of Israel's military who said they engaged in the practice, which is prohibited by international law. *AP*

EXPRESS READ

US strike kills 5 Al-Qaeda members in Yemen

Dubai: A US airstrike killed five Al-Qaeda members in southern Yemen's Abyan province, security sources said. The strike targeted a mountainous area used by the group, with one local leader believed among the dead. AQAP, formed in 2009, is considered one of the most dangerous Al-Qaeda branches. The strike comes amid ongoing conflict and a recent US-Huthi ceasefire.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform you that our proposed "Residential Building with club house" by M/s. SNN ESTATES LLP at Sy. No. 49/3, Hongasandra Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore., Karnataka File No. SEIAA 43 CON 2024 dated: 1/2/2025 has been accorded with Environmental Clearance from Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India. Copies of Clearance letters are available in the website of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change at https://parivesh.nic.in/

M/s. SNN ESTATES LLP
35/B, 3RD FLOOR, POTENTIAL HOUSE, 1ST MAIN ROAD, 3RD PHASE, J P NAGAR, BANGALORE-560078

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed that my client, SAYEDA ZEBA has lost the original Copy of the Gift deed dated 25.07.2012, executed by Sri. Saifuddin, vide document no GAN-1-01326-2012-13, Book I, CD No. GAND138, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Gandhinagar, Bangalore with respect to House No. 479, PID No. 100-767-479, situated at 5th main road, R.M.V. 2nd stage, Dollars Colony, Bangalore, measuring East to West: 18.20 meters and North to South (16.50+16.80)/2 meters, totally admeasuring 303.03 square meters. In this regard, an e-lost complaint was also lodged on 23/05/2025 vide No. 1621263/2025.

Persons having any claims and rights on the said property may lodge their claims with documentary evidence within 7 days from this day to the undersigned.

S.M. Biradar, Advocate
No.606, 14th cross, 7th main road, RMV 2nd stage, Dollars colony, Bengaluru- 560094.
Mobile. No. 9980949477.
Bengaluru Date: 24.05.2025.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the public that, Our client **Sri. J. Thyagaraju** S/o late Jayaramanaidu, and his family members have executed a registered Agreement of sale in favour of one **Sri. R. Gangaiah** S/o late Rangaiah, pertaining to the immovable Converted land/property bearing Sy.No.76/ 1-A, measuring an extent of 1 acre 31 Guntas excluding 00-08 Guntas of Kharab, dated 6th February 2014, the same has registered in the office of sub-registrar at Doddaballapura, vide bearing No.DBP-1-10898/2013-14, which is situated Adinarayana Hosahalli, Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, the same property hereafter referred as schedule property and more fully described in schedule below,

Since, executing the said Agreement of sale our client **Sri. J Thyagaraju** and his family members are trying to contact the said R. Gangaiah and his legal heirs but they are neither available nor responding to our client and said **R. Gangaiah** has utterly failed to fulfill his contractual obligations, hence our clients has issued the legal notice dated 20th May 2025 for cancellation of said agreement of sale.

Wherefore said **R. Gangaiah** has lost his rights on schedule property with immediate effect, the registered agreement of sale stands cancelled hence we inform the public that, not entertain or under go any transaction pertaining to the below mentioned schedule property with the said **R. Gangaiah,** if so our client is not responsible for any such transaction pertaining to the schedule property

SCHEDULE

All the piece and parcel of the immovable (converted)land **bearing Sy.No.76/1A,** measuring **an extent 1 acre 0-31 guntas excluding 0-8 Guntas of Kharab,** Which is situated at **Adinarayana Hosahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District,** bounded as follows:-

East by: Bettakote Channarayappa and Krishnappa properties
West by: Government Land
North by: Land belongs to Sanjeevgowda's
South by: Bodiga's Munishamappa Land

For more information contact:
J.Thyagaraj Mob:8217415489
SHIVANNA, Advocate Mobile.8711861076

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public that the documents bearing Original Power of Attorney Executed Tammali Venkata Sivakumar in favour of Thammali Mahesh Kumar (his own Brother) dated 23.10.2009, Vide Doc No. SJR/950/2009-10, No. 318 issued date 17.11.2009 duly attested by the Proper officer District Registrar office Shivajinagar Regn Dist. Bangalore has been misplaced between 20th 21st month of April-2025 and not traceable yet. The report of the same has been lodged at the Bengaluru Police Station on 19/05/2025 vide report no1614862/2025

Description of lost / misplaced original documents

All that piece and parcel of the Flat bearing No.1-B, in the First Floor, measuring 800 Sq.Feet Super Built Up Area, containing Two Bed Rooms, apartment known as "Teja Vihar" comprised in Site No.13, Katha No.185, converted Sy.No.35, (converted vide Conversion Order bearing No.B.DIS.ALN.SR.6413, dated 8/7/1972, issued by the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District), situated at Ward No. 52, Shree Lakshmi Venkateshwara Layout, Next to R.M.S Layout, Bhattarahalli Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, K.R.Puram,

If found, kindly inform to
Mrs. TAMMALI VIJAYA KUMARI,
W/o. Sri. Tammali Ram Prasad,
R/at No.81-39-5, Ram Rahim Nagar,
Kallur Post and Dist., Kurnool,
A.P - 518003. Mobile Number : 9392306223

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. Y/E.29/2025-26/10 Dated : 17-05-2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
OHE modification for platform extension works at Masarahalli.	Rs. 76,63,015.77

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs on 09-06-2025**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/ Traction, Mysuru
PUB/134/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26

Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets

South Western Railway - SWR @SWRRLY SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public is informed that, Smt. Tunga C/o Sri.Babu, aged about 44 years, residing at Ward No.9 Hombalammanapete, Magadi Town, Magadi Taluk, Ramanagara District, has lost original property documents during transit, lost document details, i.e., registered sale deed dated 28.07.2000, registered as Document No 649/2000-01, Volume No.2145, Pages 141-144, In Book –I, at the office of the SRO- Magadi. A Complaint is lodged in Crime Branch Bangalore City Police on dated 24.05.2025. Finders may return the same within 07 (seven days) to the above said Police Station or contact at the below address.

Sri.Gireesh Nayka. BCom LLB.,
"LEX FACTUM", Advocates and Legal Consultants, No.690, 2nd Floor, 36th Cross, 11th main road Rajajinagar 2nd Block, Bangalore-560 010

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Petitioner has filed the above Petition for the death certificate of her **Mother LATE R DHANAMMA W/O LATE RAMASWAMY was died on 14/02/2002** at No.63, T R P Camp, Vidyanagar Cross, Bettahalasur, Yalahanka Taluk, Jala Hobli, Bangalore and Karnataka- 562157. If any parties who have objections may dispute regarding the same can appear before the 1st Additional Civil Judge and JMFC at Devanahalli and date **of hearing 07.07.2025 at 11.00 A.M. in C.Mis.No. 242/2025.**

By Order of the Court, Sd/- Chief Ministerial Officer Civil Judge & JMFC Court, Devanahalli
Smt. Chandrakala .B Advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that my clients have negotiated to purchase the Schedule Property from its owner SRI. MAGARAJ.S. RATHOD, S/o. Late. Saremalji Rathod, residing at No.51, 5th Floor, Race Course Road, Opp KEB Auditorium, Madhavanagar, Bangalore. Any person/s, Firm/s, or Financial institutution/s claming any manner of right, title and interest over the schedule Property are hereby called upon to lodge such claim/s or objections with the undersigned in writing with supporting documents within 10 (TEN) days from the date of this Publication. If no such objections or claims are received within the said period my clients will proceed to purchase the Schedule Property and the claims received after the said period will not be considered.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Agricultural Khushki land bearing Sy. No.35/2, measuring 1 Acre 36 Guntas, situated at Nanjapura Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore urban District, bounded on the East by: Government Thopu and land of Sri. Ramoji Gowda, West by: Road, North by: Land of Indiranagara Srinivasa Reddy, and South by: Land in Sy. No.35/1.

B.N. NARASA REDDY, Advocate,
No.130, "Mathrushree Nilaya", 1st Cross, 1st Main, Doctor's colony, Konanakunte, Bangalore-62, Phone: 9341219033.
E-Mail: narasareddy.advocate@gmail.com

VISAKHAPATNAM METROPOLITAN REGION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

'e' Procurement Tender Notice

NIT No.14/2025-26/CE/SE-II/EE-V/VMRDA, Dt.21-05-2025 (EPC mode)

The VMRDA, Visakhapatnam invites Bids on "e" Procurement Platform on EPC Mode

Name of the work : **Development of 7 Nos of VMRDA MASTER PLAN ROADS PROJECT under EPC CONTRACT MODEL in Visakhapatnam Region, Andhra Pradesh.**

The bid can be downloaded on AP e procurement portal from **21-05-2025 to 18-06-2025 up to 3.00 pm.**

For further details please refer to www.apeprocurement.gov.in

Sd/-Metropolitan Commissioner, VMRDA

YOUR GUIDE TO SPICY LIVING INDULGE Every Friday with THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

TAMIL NADU POLICE HOUSING CORPORATION LTD
(A Government of Tamil Nadu Undertaking)
(An ISO 9001 - 2015 Certified Company)
South Circle
No.1 Inspector Quarters, TSP 6th Battalion Campus, New Natham Road, Madurai - 625 014.
email id : spndengrsc.tnphcl@tn.gov.in Phone : 0452-2903019

e-tender Invitation for Bids No: 04/2025-2026 **Dated: 23.05.2025**

Name of Work	Approximate value of work in Lakhs (2024-2025)
1) Construction of Central Prison, 113 Nos. of Prison Staff Quarters, Cement Concrete Road and Security Perimeter wall (for Men Prison) at **THERKKUTHERU UTKADAI SEMBUR VILLAGE,** Melur Taluk in Madurai District (Phase-I)	₹ 16136.97 + GST @ 18%

1) For Tender document, visit **https://tntenders.gov.in**
2) Date and Time for downloading and submission the tender documents: **04.06.2025 from 12.00 Noon to 04.07.2025 upto 06.00 P.M**
3) Date and time of opening of the e-tender : **07.07.2025 at 11.15 A.M**
4) Detailed Tender Notice available in the website **www.tnphc.com** & **www.tnpolice.gov.in**

DIPR/2548/Tender/2025

Superintending Engineer, South Circle, TNPHC Ltd

WESTERN RAILWAY BHAVNAGAR DIVISION

VARIOUS ENGINEERING WORKS
TENDER NO: 70/2025-26 TO 76-2025-26

Sr No.	E-Tender No	Name of Work	Tender Value(Rs.)	EMD Rs.
1	70-2025-26	Sr. DEN (Central) BVP Jurisdiction: Providing Track mounted automatic Gauge Face Lubricators (36 Nos.) Curves against sanctioned work of Bhavnagar Division Providing Track mounted automatic Gauge Face Lubricators	3,46,97,548.80	3,23,500.00
2	71-2025-26	Flash Butt Weld Work against the sanctioned work Through weld renewal (TWR) of 1604 numbers of welds with replacement of 87 numbers of switch expansion joints (SEJs) in Rajula-Pipavav and Dhasa-Rajula section.	1,84,71,153.96	2,42,400.00
3	72-2025-26	Track Related Work against Sanetioned Work Through Weld Renewal (TWR) of 1604 numbers of welds with replacement of 87 numbers of switch expansion joints (SEJs) in Rajula-Pipavav and Dhasa-Rajula Section.	98,47,017.00	1,97,000.00
4	73-2025-26	Deep screening of 40 Tkm length between Dhasa-Pipavav section in PRCL line. (Phase-III).	3,56,57,054.58	3,28,300.00
5	74-2025-26	Kanalus-Porbandar Section: Closure of LC No. 55 at KM 928/1-2 by providing the connecting road Through LC No. 56 at KM 929/0-1.	1,52,33,738.97	2,26,200.00
6	75-2025-26	Sabarmati-Botad section: Construction of fencing/ Boundary wall to prevent trespassing and encroachment along the track at (4.47).	3,44,34,946.31	3,22,200.00
7	76-2025-26	Bhavnagar Division: Provision of 57 water coolers of 150 L capacity at 52 stations.	53,62,122.31	1,07,300.00

For All above Tender : Bidding Start Date: 02/06/2025 **Date of Bidding Closing:** 16/06/2025 NIT has been uploaded on railway web site **www.ireps.gov.in on Date - 23/05/2025** 034

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$16.5 BN daily revenue from US customs duties as American importers made monthly payments to the government for goods received in April, as per official data

'Export, urban planning key issues'

Current geopolitical and geo-economic environment favourable to India: NITI Aayog CEO

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

EXPORTS, the "One District, One Product" initiative, improved urban planning, and the proposed "One State, One Destination" scheme were among the key issues discussed at the 10th NITI Aayog Governing Council Meeting held on Saturday.

As per BVR Subrahmanyam, CEO of NITI Aayog, the meeting also explored the favorable geo-economic environment for India's electronics manufacturing sector. He noted that India has been relatively less affected by the tariffs imposed during former US President Donald Trump's tenure, unlike other countries. Subrahmanyam highlighted India's demographic advantage and cost-effective workforce.

"The current geopolitical and geo-economic environment is favourable to India for several reasons. First, India was not hit as hard as other countries. Second, we are powered by a youthful workforce. Anyone wanting to manufacture at scale today will find that India is the only place offering a large pool of affordable labor," he said.

NITI Aayog CEO BVR Subrahmanyam, vice-chair Suman Bery, member VK Paul| PTI

It's not enough to have manufacturing and services alone — the world is open for us. The government has signed many FTAs, and more are in the pipeline — BVR Subrahmanyam, CEO of NITI Aayog

Chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the meeting on May 24, 2025, was attended by Chief Ministers and Lieutenant Governors from 24 states and 7 Union Territories. However, Chief Ministers of Karnataka, Kerala, West Bengal, Bihar, and Puducherry did not attend.

Subrahmanyam said the PM urged states to enhance their focus on exports. "It's not enough to have manufacturing and services alone — the world is open for us. The government has signed many Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), and more are in the pipeline. We need to leverage these FTAs," he said, citing successful sectors such as automobiles, electronics, semiconductors, and textiles.

Urbanisation was another major theme. Subrahmanyam pointed out that while about one-third of India's population currently lives in urban areas, this figure is expected to reach 50% by 2047. "We must pay close attention to this transition. Explosive urban growth is coming, and if we don't plan for it, we will face unlivable, chaotic cities. Cities should be used as engines of economic growth," he warned.

NEWSCOPE

PRIZING OPEN CENTRAL INDIA'S NATURAL WEALTH

GURBIR SINGH

THE shadowy civil war of the Indian paramilitary forces against Left Wing Extremism (LWE) has caught the news pages in recent days. Police spokespersons have claimed major victories in encounters with the rebels. In operations around the Karregutalu Hills, at the in the junction of Chhatisgarh and Telangana, 31 Naxalites were gunned down last month. More recently, government forces have eliminated Basavaraju, a top leader of the banned CPI (Maoist).

The campaign to eliminate left extremism in what is called the 'Red Corridor" running through the tribal belts extending from Maharashtra's Gadchiroli district through Bastar and Chhatisgarh, and to Jharkhand in the East, has 'neutralized' 380 insurgents since January 2014, says a 10th April government release. The target, as per the press release, is to "completely eliminate Naxalism by 31st March 2026, since Naxalism is seen as the biggest obstacle in the development of remote areas and tribal villages."

Is the government campaign aimed at 'finishing off' the extremists, or are the larger goals to open up central India's mineral and natural resources for exploitation? Or both?

It is ironic that, in a parallel development, the Ministry of Environment has granted in-principle permission to clear 937 hectares of forest land and the felling of 1.23 lakh trees to pave the way for Lloyd Metals' beneficiation plant in Maharashtra's Gadchiroli district. The company was granted a mining lease in 2007, but mining operations have been stalled in the face of Maoist attacks, and protests by local communities over tribal and forest rights.

It is no surprise,with the insurgents now on the back foot, the Maharashtra government has pushed ahead with the formation of the Gadchiroli District Mining Authority.

Forced evictions

India's current mineral production is pegged at around Rs 2.23 lakh crore (around $24 billion), a fraction of the $18-20 trillion worth of minerals and natural resources of the country. Most of the unexploited deposits sit below the forests of central India, sparsely populated by tribal communities. Besides logistical issues, forest laws and traditional tribal rights have been a barrier to expanding corporate interests.

Over the years, Maoists, NGOs and even priests like Stan Swamy have mobilized these tribal communities to resist corporate expansion. The state forces, on the other hand, haveintervened to crush the protests. Human rights lawyers like Bela Bhatia have documented how the official number of 'rebels' killed hides the one-sided elimination of scores of village youth, and the brutal

MANDAR PARDIKAR

eviction of entire villages. Beyond what meets the eye, is the long-term target: the opening of the natural resources and evicting the local communities.

There's a parallel in the eviction of native, American tribes in the US. They were forcibly removed from their ancestral land, and confined to reserves. The Indian Act of 1876 legalized the exploitation of their resources, and the 18th and 19th-century saw waves of genocidal massacres by US Army and white settlers.

The violence and evictions of indigenous people in India is no less brutal. In 2005, state backed vigilante groups under the banner of 'Salwa Judum' (peace march) herded thousands of Gond tribals into barbed wire-enclosed makeshift camps. It was to give right of way to the companies who had signed mining leases but were facing ground opposition. By July 2011, the Supreme Court declared the militias illegal and ordered their disbandment. The Salwa Judum movement fell apart by 2013, but not before hundreds had been killed and lakhs displaced.

Sustainable development

The cycle of violence and eviction of indigenous people is not peculiar only to the 'red' zones of central India. A little over a decade ago, the Niyamgiri Hills in Odisha, was the scene of a bitter conflict between the Dongaria Kondh tribal community and mining giant, Vedanta Resources.

Vedanta wanted to mine the bauxite under the hills for their alumina refinery at Lanjigarh, but resistance was stiff as the tribal community considered the hills sacred. Despite the government's support for the project, the Kondhs, along with various activist groups, successfully blocked the mining operation, highlighting the importance of indigenous rights and environmental protection.

Similarly, the South Korean steel behemoth POSCO had planned a 12-million-tonne steel plant in Paradip, Odisha, slated to be among the largest in India. From the start, the company faced heavy weather. Land acquisition is where it fell apart. Posco's target land was among the most productive in the region with hundreds of hectares of betel leaf cultivation that earned local farmers good returns. Fish farming and rice cultivation too were thriving enterprises in this coastal belt.

This writer, who toured the region extensively during the protests, was frankly told by the farmers the compensation and jobs offered by Poscocould never match the earnings from betel cultivation and fish farming. Finally, by 2017, the company withdrew surrendering the land allotted for the project.

This is not meant to be a anti-development treatise. There can be no progress without economic development. But there's another word for it: sustainable development. Factories, mines, roads and airports must be built; but not by trampling on the people and the resources that sustains them. Tribal communities depend on natural produce like the tendu leaf used to make bidis, or by harvesting the mahua flower and the honey from the forest. They worship the totems that sustain their lives. These communities cannot be torn asunder because there is bauxite or coal under their villages waiting to be mined.

MTNL: A tale of descend from monopoly to margins

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

MAHANAGAR Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) is gasping for breath. Saddled with ₹33,568 crore debt, its hope for a partial reprieve from debt burden was dashed when finance ministry rejected its request for a waiver of its outstanding dues.

MTNL is facing an uncertain future with talks of merger with BSNL not going anywhere. Incorporated in 1986, MTNL was established as the primary provider of telecom services in two key metro cities — Delhi and Mumbai. The Government of India retains a majority stake of 56.25% in the company.

In its early years, MTNL enjoyed near-monopoly status in both cities. Former employees recall a time when demand for new connections was so high that staff shortages became an operational challenge. However, it failed to adapt to the evolving telecom landscape. Over the years, MTNL's user base shrank drastically, now limited mostly to government offices.

Market performance

Despite its past dominance, MTNL commands only 5.43% wireline subscribers and 0.9% share in wireless segment as of 31 March 2025.

As per MTNL's filings, the state-run telecom firm has defaulted on bank loans worth ₹8,346.24 crore from seven public sector banks. Its indebtedness reached ₹33,568 crore as of March 31, 2025. This debt includes ₹24,071 crore in sovereign guarantee (SG) bonds and a ₹1,151 crore loan from the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), mainly for paying SG bond interest. The loan defaults to banks, comprising principal and interest, occurred between August 2024 and February 2025, with major exposures to Union Bank of India (₹3,633.42 cr), Indian Overseas Bank (₹2,374.49 cr), and Bank of India (₹1,077.34 cr), among others.

Following these defaults, MTNL approached finance ministry for a waiver on dues. However, the ministry rejected a DoT proposal for a partial debt waiver. The DoT has since re-approached the ministry, seeking funds. For Q4 FY25, MTNL reported a net loss of ₹784 crore.

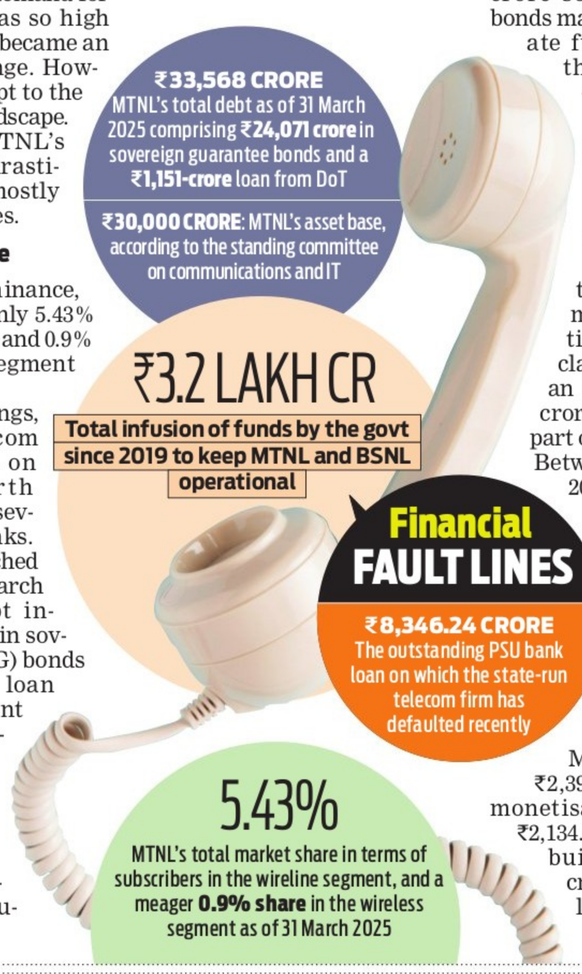
Key issues and govt support

One of primary issues has been its technological lag. While private telcos rolled out 4G and prepared for 5G, MTNL remained stuck in 3G era. Even today, its 4G rollout is limited despite government backing and BSNL's support. Additionally, an aging workforce and massive salary and pension bills led to a disproportionate employee-customer ratio.

The government has repeatedly stepped in to support MTNL and BSNL. In 2019, a ₹69,000 crore revival plan was announced, including a proposed merger, free 4G spectrum, and a voluntary retirement scheme (VRS). Nearly 14,000 employees opted for the VRS, reducing MTNL's staff strength by over 90%. In total, over ₹3.2 lakh crore has been infused to keep MTNL and BSNL operational.

Moreover, the government has stated MTNL will not be shut until its liabilities are cleared. However, a major challenge remains: MTNL's ₹24,000 crore sovereign-guaranteed bonds mature in 2034. To generate funds for expunging these liabilities, the company has been directed to increase revenues from asset monetisation and operations, alongside implementing efficiencies to cut costs.

A report submitted to the standing committee on communications and IT last year claimed MTNL possesses an asset base of ₹30,000 crore. Monetisation a key part of the revival strategy. Between 2019 and January 2025, MTNL's earnings from monetisation of non-core assets (land and buildings) was at ₹2,134.61 crore, with an additional ₹258.25 crore from core assets (tower and fibre). As per the government, MTNL has generated ₹2,392.86 crore from asset monetisation. This includes ₹2,134.61 crore from land and buildings, and ₹258.25 crore from core assets like towers and fibre.


₹33,568 CRORE
MTNL's total debt as of 31 March 2025 comprising ₹24,071 crore in sovereign guarantee bonds and a ₹1,151-crore loan from DoT
₹30,000 CRORE: MTNL's asset base, according to the standing committee on communications and IT
₹3.2 LAKH CR
Total infusion of funds by the govt since 2019 to keep MTNL and BSNL operational
Financial FAULT LINES
₹8,346.24 CRORE
The outstanding PSU bank loan on which the state-run telecom firm has defaulted recently
5.43%
MTNL's total market share in terms of subscribers in the wireline segment, and a meager 0.9% share in the wireless segment as of 31 March 2025

EPFO retains interest rate at 8.25% for FY25

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE government has retained the rate of interest on employees' provident fund (EPF) at 8.25% for FY25, enabling retirement fund body EPFO to deposit the annual interest accumulation in the post-retirement funds of over 7 crore subscribers.

The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), on February 28, had decided to retain the interest rate of 8.25% on EPF deposits for FY25, equal to the rate provided in the preceding fiscal. The approved rate for 2024-25 was sent for concurrence of the Ministry of Finance.

The decision was taken at the 237th meeting of the central board of trustees of the EPFO chaired by Union Minister for Labour & Employment Mansukh Mandaviya in New Delhi on February 28. Compared to many fixed-income instruments, EPF offers relatively higher and stable returns, ensuring steady growth on post-retirement savings. In February 2024, the EPFO had raised the rate to 8.25% for 2023-24, from 8.15% in FY23. In March 2022, EPFO had lowered rate on EPF for FY22 to an over four-decade low of 8.1%, from 8.5% in FY21.

'Tata Motors demerger to bring strategic clarity'

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

TATA MOTORS demerger process to split its commercial vehicles and passenger vehicles businesses, including EVs and Jaguar Land Rover(JLR), into two independently listed companies is expected to be completed in the second half of 2025, said Tata Sons and Tata Motors chairman N Chandrasekaran in the company's 80th Integrated Annual Report.

He stated that the proposed demerger would bring greater strategic clarity and would create long-term returns for shareholders. "The demerger will bring greater strategic clarity and agility, enabling a more focused approach to execution and value creation, delivering superior experiences for customers, rewarding careers for employees, and long-term returns for shareholders," the chairman said.

He added, "Enabling corporate actions to streamline the capital structure of the company and enhance its operational focus gathered pace during the year with the delisting of its DVRs and the merger of Tata Motors Finance with Tata Capital. In early FY26, your company's shareholders approved the demerger which is expected to be effective during the second half of 2025, with shareholders receiving equivalent shares in both entities."

Chandrasekaran expressed confidence in the future of Tata Motors' resilience amid emerging global headwinds. "We remain vigilant to worldwide volatility, including the impact of changes in global trade conditions and varying degrees of adoption of EVs across different markets and evolving technologies, to accelerate our production plans while delivering value to our customers," the chairman said.

Business & Beyond

World Hypertension Day observed at Central Hospital, SER

On the occasion of World Hypertension Day, Central Hospital, South Eastern Railway, Garden Reach, Kolkata, organised a special awareness program and health check-up session for its healthcare staff. The event focused on raising awareness about hypertension and promoting regular monitoring of blood pressure among medical professionals. A total of 75 doctors, nurses, and hospital staff participated in the program, which included a health screening using a special body composition analyzer. This device provided detailed data including BMI, body fat percentage, water content, and muscle mass, helping participants gain better insight into their health status.

JSW Foundation inaugurates new building at Sahayata Old Age Home, Rengali

In a major step toward promoting community welfare, JSW Foundation has inaugurated and handed over newly constructed facilities at Sahayata Old Age Home, Rengali. This initiative was undertaken keeping in mind specific needs of the elderly residents at the home. Responding to the request of the residents, JSW Foundation constructed four rooms and three combined toilet-cum-bathrooms, ensuring greater comfortand hygiene for the senior citizens. This addition aims to improve the living conditions and well-being of the beneficiaries. The new infrastructure was inaugurated in presence of Neelam Singh, President – Akanksha Ladies Club, JSW BPSL and Vishal Raj, head – CSR, JSW Foundation (Sambalpur & Jharsuguda); alongside officials of JSW Foundation and civil team of JSW BPSL and members of Akanksha Ladies Club.

Order book expected to soar: GRSE wins competitive bid for next-Gen corvettes

Kolkata: In a development that speaks volumes about the company's shipbuilding expertise, business acumen and proficiency in design, production & financial management, Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) has emerged as the lowest bidder (L1) for construction of Next Generation Corvettes (NGC) for the Indian Navy. GRSE is the only Indian shipyard to have delivered111 warships to the country's maritime forces & friendly foreign nations, including 06 Missile Corvettes(Khukri& Kora Class) and 04 ASW Corvettes (Kamorta Class). The shipyard participated in competitive bidding process and has emerged as lowest bidder. GRSE will be awarded the contract to build five (05) Next-Generation Corvettes at a cost of about ₹25,000 crore. These Next-Gen Corvettes shall be capable of fulfilling the roles of offensive SSM attack, anti-missile defence, surface action Groups for maritime strikes, ASW and many other Maritime Operations.

Post historic financial results, NALCO CMD focuses on project completions

Bhubaneswar: National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO), the Navratna CPSE under the Ministry of Mines, Govt of India, has achieved a historic milestone in its performance for the financial year 2024–25, marking a new era of operational excellence and strategic growth. This outstanding achievement underscores the company's resilience, operational excellence, and unwavering focus on value creation. According to the audited financial results declared, NALCO has achieved an all-time high financial milestone, setting a new benchmark by recording its highest-ever net profit of Rs. 5,325 crore, reflecting a robust year-on-year (YoY) increase of 158% percent. The Company also reported highest ever revenue from operations of Rs. 16,788 crore for FY25.

Prime Minister virtually inaugurates 103 Amrit stations

Kolkata: Prime Minister Narendra Modi has virtually inaugurated 103 railway stations across the country under the Amrit Bharat Station scheme, along with various important railway infrastructure projects, via video conferencing (22.05.2025). Joychandi Pahar station of South Eastern Railway was inaugurated as a part of this project. A programme was organised at Joychandi pahar station. The programme was graced by the presence of Dr. Subhas Sarkar, ex-Minister of Education, Govt of India and Vivekananda Bauri, MLA as chief guests. In addition, a large number of local residents, school children, media personnel, Social media influencers, families of Indian Army personnel, among others.

It's a big job; it's a big transition. Two of your big players are retiring. But we're all confident that Shubman's the guy to take us forward and hopefully, in time, that proves it. He's a terrific player and we're all very hopeful. There's no doubt it is going to be as tough as it gets doing (the captaincy job in) a five-match series in England. Maybe he'll have to learn on the job a little bit, but we are very confident with what he has to offer and that is the reason we picked him.

— Ajit Agarkar, chairman of the selection committee

Shubman Gill — Tests: 32 Runs: 1893 Avg: 35.05 100s: 5

Rishabh Pant — Tests: 43 Runs: 2948 Avg: 42.11 100s: 6 St/cts: 149/15

KL Rahul — Tests: 58 Runs: 3257 Avg: 33.57 100s: 8

Yashasvi Jaiswal — Tests: 19 Runs: 1798 Averages: 52.88 100s:4

Ravindra Jadeja — Tests: 80 Runs: 3370 Avg: 34.74 100s: 4

Jasprit Bumrah — Tests: 45 Bowling avg: 19.40 BBI: 6/27 5Ws: 13

Shardul Thakur — Tests: 11 Bowling Avg: 28.38 BBI: 7/61 5Ws: 1

B Sai Sudharsan — First Class matches: 29 Runs: 1957 Avgs: 39.93 100s: 7

Dhruv Jurel — Tests: 4 Runs: 202 Avg: 40.40 50s: 1

Kuldeep Yadav — Tests: 13 Bowling avg: 22.16 BBI: 5/40 5ws: 4

Arshdeep Singh — First Class matches: 12 Bowling avg:28.05 BBI: 6/40 5ws: 2

Akash Deep — Tests: 7 Bowling avg: 35.20 BBI: 3/63 5ws: 0

Karun Nair — Tests: 6 Runs: 374 Avg: 62.33 100s: 1

Nitish Kumar Reddy — Tests: 5 Runs: 298 Avg: 37.25 100s: 1

Washington Sundar — Tests: 9 Batting Avg: 42.54 Best bowling: 7/59 5Ws: 1

Prasidh Krishna — Tests: 3 Bowling avg: 29.62 BBI: 3/42 5Ws: 0

Mohammed Siraj — Tests: 36 Bowling avg: 30.74 BBI: 6/15 5Ws: 3

Abhimanyu Easwaran — First Class matches: 101 Runs: 7674 Avgs: 48.87 100s:27

THE SQUAD

Out of the 18 players included in the squad for the upcoming five-match Test series in England, three — B Sai Sudharsan, Abhimanyu Easwaran and Arshdeep Singh — have never played in the format at the elite level while six others have played just nine or less matches

LOW ON EXPERIENCE, HIGH ON HOPE

FIROZ MIRZA @ Chennai

THE last time India touched the England shores in 2021-22, the team was loaded with experienced players like Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma, Ajinkya Rahane and Cheteshwar Pujara. India drew the series 2-2 with the last Test of the five-match series played almost nine months after the fourth due to Covid-19 outbreak. These four players along with pacer Mohammed Shami, who was not picked this time around due to injury, had played 442 Test matches among themselves till date.

With Kohli and Sharma recently announcing their retirement from the format, the selectors led by the chief selector Ajit Agarkar on Saturday picked up a relatively young 18-member squad with 25-year-old Shubman Gill being the leader of the pack and wicket-keeper-batter Rishabh Pant his deputy. A look at the squad and it is evident that the selected players except a few lack experience especially overseas. Out of 18, three — B Sai Sudharsan, Abhimanyu Easwaran and Arshdeep Singh — are yet to make their debut while six others have played nine or less Test matches.

Going by sheer number of Tests they have played, all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja, with 80 matches under his belt, is the most experienced player in the team followed by KL Rahul (53), Jasprit Bumrah (45), Rishabh Pant (43), Gill (32) and Mohammed Siraj (45). Others, who have touched the double figures are Yashasvi Jaiswal (19), Shardul Thakur (11) and Kuldeep Yadav (13). If compared to the England top four and their captain currently playing against Zimbabwe in their only Test at Nottingham, the experience of the Indian players looks even more marginal. The top four of India's next opponents includes Zak Crawley (54), Ben Duckett (33), Oliver Pope (56) and Joe Root (153) and if captain Ben Stokes (111) is added to the list, they all have played 407 Test, including the ongoing contest against Zimbabwe, so far. All the 18 Indian players in turn have played 371 matches so far.

Agarkar addressed the issue during the press conference held in Mumbai to announce the squad. "When guys (Kohli and Sharma) like that retire, they are stalwarts of cricket...it is always difficult, (their) shoes are very big to fill. But one way of looking at it is, that it's an opportunity for others," Agarkar told the media. "They've left a legacy behind. Obviously, I've had conversations with both of them over the last couple of months."

The former India all-rounder also spoke on the decision to appoint Gill as the captain. "Whether it's a tough experience, or, we have a really good series, whichever way you look at it, it is going to be tough and experience can only help going forward."

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Shubman Gill will be leading a young side in England

Agarkarspeak

ON BUMRAH

I don't think he's available for all five Tests going by what the physios and the doctors have told us.

ON HIS WORKLOAD

Whether it's three or four (Tests), I think we'll see how the series goes and how his body can take the workload. Needless to say, how important he is so even if he's fit for whether it's three or four Tests, I think he's going to win us a few Test matches."

"We're just glad that he's fit (from the) little setback that he had in Australia. (It) wasn't too bad (and) he's back playing. I know it is T20 cricket at the moment. But we've seen what he's doing in the IPL so we're just happy that he's part of the squad.

ON RETIREMENTS

When guys like(Rohit and Virat) that retire, they are stalwarts of cricket.It is always difficult, (their) shoes are very big to fill. But one way of looking at it is, that it's an opportunity for others. Virat reached out (to the BCCI/ selection committee) in early April, and he felt he gad given everything he had. If he felt he could not be up to the standards that he has set, you have got to respect that. Needless to say, Rohit has been leading the team as well.

Mentally prepared to play any role: Sudharsan

ASHOK VENUGOPAL @ Chennai

TAMIL Nadu's B Sai Sudharsan has been unstoppable in the IPL season so far. With an impressive 638 runs in 13 outings, he is the current Orange Cap holder. Now Sudharsan, who's regarded as one of the promising youngsters across formats, could soon get a chance to test his mettle in the longest format of the game as he has been named in the 18-man Indian team that will play five Tests against England. Sudharsan has represented the country in white-ball format but this is the first time the 23-year-old has been selected in the Test squad. The left-handed batter from Chennai is stoked to get this opportunity and said that he'll put his best foot forward if he gets the chance to be in action. In an exclusive chat with this daily, Sudharsan said that he's prepared to adapt and play whatever role he's offered during the tour. Excerpts...

● How does it feel to make the Test squad?

Very happy, it feels great to be in the Test squad. It is like a dream come true for me.

● On Virat Kohli's love for Test cricket and how he is also equally passionate about the five-day format

Like Virat Kohli, I am also passionate about Test cricket. I love the longer format of the game as it is the ultimate test for a cricketer. It is here that one can display his calibre as a cricketer. So I'm thankful to be part of the team for England. Test cricket has got its own charm and the drama over a period of five days fascinates me. So when I get an opportunity, I will give my best shot.

● On his take on being offered a different role during the series as there are as many as four players who can open

Playing for India is a dream. I cannot be choosy, I am mentally prepared to play any role they give me.

● On adapting to red-ball cricket soon after the IPL

It takes some time to adapt from white-ball to red-ball. It is not as easy as one thinks. But as a professional player, you have to be prepared for it. The India A game and the practice sessions that we will have will hopefully prepare us for Test cricket.

● On his stint at Surrey and how that helped him

My stint with Surrey will definitely come in handy. At Surrey, I learnt a lot to be a professional cricketer and of course, got to know how to play the swinging ball in England.

● On Gill being appointed new skipper of Test team

I am really happy for him. He leads by example and hates to lose. He empowers players and is active on the field and makes things happen, rather than waiting for them to happen.

● On his rapport with Gill and if they could translate their IPL success to longest format

Yes, I share a very good rapport with Gill. He guides me and with him at the other end, it eases the pressure as he always tries to instill confidence in you. As far as the extension of IPL goes, the format is different, but it helps when you have a person who understands your game well leading the side.

Nair compelled selectors to pick him up, says Vidarbha coach

FIROZ MIRZA @ Chennai

VIDARBHA head coach Usman Ghani has seen Karun Nair's desperation to get back into the India fold from close quarters. Nair, who made his Test debut back in 2016 and went on to score a triple century only in his third match, could play only six games in the next four months before being dropped from the national team.

Despite making bucketloads of runs in domestic cricket, the 33-year-old right hand batter always found himself on the other side of the fence. It even made him vent his frustration on social media when on December 10, 2022, he wrote, 'Dear cricket give me one more chance'. It took more than two years for selectors to have a relook at Nair, who has been a prolific scorer in the domestic cricket in the last few years and also helped Vidarbha clinch their third Ranji title recently. As the saying goes, better late than never, Nair got a recall to the India Test squad on Saturday and his Vidarbha coach Usman Ghani is over the moon. "I am not at all surprised. Actually he compelled the selectors to pick him up with his consistent performances. He deserves it," was Ghani's reply when asked about Nair's inclusion in the 18-member squad selected for the five-match Test series in England starting June 20.

The coach said a lot of places have fallen vacant and it was apt that his ward got a chance again. "Many places have got vacant due to retirements (Virat and Rohit). He is a seasoned campaigner and was a performer in the past as well. I don't think he got a proper chance before getting dropped from the Indian team. Now he is back in the Indian team with his hard work and sheer determination. Good for him, I am very happy for him." Ghani believes Nair is best suited for No. 5 slot in Test cricket as he can provide solidity at the position. "No 5 will be the ideal position for him. He can take responsibility there as he is a very experienced guy because if (KL) Rahul opens the innings then you need experience in the middle to bat around with the youngsters. He had done that in the past as well."

Earlier, Nair had come up with a blistering knock of 40-ball 89 against Mumbai Indians while playing for Delhi Capitals in the ongoing IPL 2025. Ghani had then credited his improved fitness and rigorous training regime for the success in the shortest format of the game. "First when he came to Vidarbha, we made sure he was comfortable with the team. When he came, he knew what his role was. He not only has to perform but has to guide the team as well. And he wanted to prove a point as well. As far as training is concerned, everybody trains in a more or less similar way but adaptation is the biggest thing in the longest format. Nair can adapt easily because of his experience. He plays for a County side as well so that helped. He had that zeal to make a comeback to the India fold. He always used to say that a lot of international cricket is left in him. It was good that he realised fitness is where he is lacking, so he worked hard on that aspect."

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Karun Nair with his Vidarbha coach Usman Ghani

PROLIFIC DOMESTIC SCORER

2024-25 Ranji

863 from 9 matches including four centuries and two half-centuries.

2023-24 Ranji

690 from 10 matches including two hundreds and three fifties.

COUNTY STINT

He joined Northamptonshire. In 2023, he made 249 runs from three matches at an average of 83, including a hundred against Surrey. In 2024, he aggregated 487 runs from seven matches at an average of 49, including a ton vs Glamorgan.

EXPRESS READ

Italy's Jasmine Paolini reacts during a practice session on the eve of the French Open | AP

Set for Major service: French Open begins today

PARIS: The second Grand Slam of the year — the French Open — will begin on Sunday. World No 1 (women's singles) Aryna Sabalenka will be one of the top players who'll be action on Day 1. Italian Open winner Jasmine Paolini (Italy) will also be in action. Live on Sony Sports Network

Boxers Sanju and Pawan advance

BANGKOK: National Games bronze medallist Sanju MS and silver winner Pawan Bartwal won their respective bouts at the 4th Thailand Open International Boxing meet here. Sanju (60kg) beat Japan's Sarii Kokufu 5:0 while Pawan (55kg) beat local challenger Thanarat Saengphet 4:1.

ISSF Jr WC: Shambhavi and Ojasvi steal show

SUHL: Two 16-year-old women Indian shooters, Shambhavi Kshirsagar and Ojasvi Thakur, stole the show with a 1-2 finish in the women's 10m air rifle final of the ongoing ISSF Junior World Cup in Suhl, Germany. Earlier, Naraen Pranav had won a bronze medal in the men's 10m air rifle event.

Capitals deny Punjab No 1 spot

AGENCIES @ Jaipur

SAMEER Rizvi played a blinder of an innings (58 off 25 balls) as Delhi Capitals defeated Punjab Kings by six wickets in the Indian Premier League at Jaipur on Saturday.

Punjab had entered the match with an eye on the top spot. And they seemed to have a good chance of reaching that objective after posting a competitive total of 206/8.

In their chase, DC were in a tricky spot after losing in-form batter Karun Nair in the 15th over. That's when Rizvi came to the fore and took the game away from Punjab. Rizvi struck as many as five sixes in his innings.

Earlier, Marcus Stoinis' quick-fire 44 and Shreyas Iyer's sparkling half-century had laid the platform for Punjab Kings to post a 200-plus total. Stoinis blazed away to a 16-ball 44 not out after Iyer set it up with a 53-run knock off 34 deliveries. Stoinis struck four sixes and three fours during his blistering knock. After opting to bowl earlier, DC enjoyed early success as Priyansh Arya (6) top-edged a Mustafizur Rahman (3/33) short ball that cramped the batter for room and wicket-keeper Tristan Stubbs went few steps backwards to complete a neat catch after the ball went very high. Josh Inglis picked up a couple of boundaries off Mukesh. **Brief scores:** PBKS 206/8 in 20 ovs (Shreyas 53, Stoinis 44 n.o, Inglis 32; Mustafizur 3/33) **lost to** DC 208/4 in 19.3 ovs (Rizvi 58 n.o, Nair 44, Rahul 35).

Sameer Rizvi's quick fifty helped Delhi Capitals beat Punjab Kings in the IPL | AP

Rejuvenated Srikanth one hit away from title

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

IT'S been a dream week for ace Indian shuttler Kidambi Srikanth. His smile is back, that sharpness in his game is visible and more importantly, he's getting something that has evaded him in the past — the all-important wins under his belt. After notching up his sixth straight win in five days, Srikanth is now one victory away from a title.

On Saturday, the former World No 1 got the better of Yushi Tanaka of Japan 21-18, 24-22 in 49 minutes at the ongoing Malaysia Masters in Kuala Lumpur to reach his first final in four years. The last time he reached this stage of the competition in a marquee event was the World Championships in 2021, where he finished as the runner-up.

Kidambi Srikanth | BADMINTON PHOTO

He started from the very bottom (he played two qualifying matches before entering the main draw) and now he has the chance to finish at the very top. He'll face Li Shi Feng, the World No 4, in the summit match on Sunday. The Chinese shuttler beat Kodai Naraoka of Japan in the other semifinal. Srikanth has beaten the odds to come this far and he'll be hoping to cause another upset on the final day.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
PUBLIC HEALTH AND MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

NIT No.03/SE/PH/WGL/RWBP/AMRUT-2.0/Spl. Tranche/2025-26/151, Dt: 23-05-2025

Name of the work: MA & UD - PHMED - "Rejuvenation of Water Body Projects in 45 ULBs (50 Projects) under AMRUT 2.0 (Special Tranche) in the jurisdictions of Adilabad, Karimnagar, Khammam and Warangal PH Divisions (Package-I), **Total Estimated Cost: Rs.132.45 Crore;** Bid submission start date: **26.05.2025 @ 11:00 AM.** Bid submission closing date: **11.06.2025 @ 04:30 PM.** For details visit **https://tender.telangana.gov.in.** Contact No. 9704601864, 9392920307.

Sd/- **Superintending Engineer, P.H. Circle, Warangal.**

DIPR R.O. No.2429-PP/CL/Advt/1/2025-26, Dt: 24/05/2025

UJVN Limited

(An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprises)
H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephones: 0135-2763808, Fax: 0135-2763508
CIN No.U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website:www.ujvnl.com

पत्र सं0: 358 दिनांक: 24 / 05 / 2025

Date Extension Notice-02

Due to unavoidable reasons, the date of submission & opening of the e-NIT No. 23/EE/PCM-DKP/TN/2024-25 invited by the office of the Executive Engineer, Project Civil Maintenance-Dakpathar is being extended as below:

Last Date & Time for submission of bids on e-portal: Upto 17:00 hrs of 05.06.2025.

Last Date & Time for Submission of hard Copies: Upto 11:00 hrs of 06.06.2025.

Date & Time of Opening of bids on e-portal: at 11:30 hrs of 06.06.2025.

Other Terms & Condition will remain same.

Information regarding Addendum/Corrigendum/Cancellation etc. of tender may be obtained from the website.

Full & Further Details of tender can be seen from the e-procurement portal "**https://uktenders.gov.in**".

Executive Engineer
Project Civil Maintenance-Dakpathar

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Union Bank of India
भारत सरकार का उपक्रम A Government of India Undertaking

UNION BANK OF INDIA
(A Government of India Undertaking)

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for 30 days Sale of immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised officer of **Union Bank of India** (secured Creditor) will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is basis"** on the date mentioned below, for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Union bank of India from the below mentioned Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder.

Union Bank of India, Bengaluru Sarjapur Road Branch
No.211, Greenglen Layout, Sarjapur Outer Ring Road, Bellandur, Bengaluru-560103.

1. Name and address of the Borrower, Co-Applicant and Guarantor: (1) Ms Rukhsana D/o Mashroor Ali, Flat No.C-102, 1st Floor, Block No.C, Aakruthi Amity Apartement Kammasandra Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560100. **Also at:** Ms Rukhsana D/o Mashroor Ali, House No.440/16, 2nd Floor, DDA Flates Madangiri, Dr.Ambedkar Nagar, Near Santoshi Mata Mandir, South Delhi-110062.

Amount due: Rs. 90,38,225.74/- (Rupees Ninety Lakh Thirty Eight Thousand Two Hundred Twenty-Five and Seventy Four Paise only) as on **30.04.2025** together with interest.

Description of immovable secured assets to be Sold: A Two Bedroom Flat bearing No.C-102, 1st Floor, Block No. C, "Aakruthi Amity" Apartment, bearing Sy No.6/1, Kammasandra Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Flat measuring 1290 Square Feet along with 470 Sqft undivided share with one surface covered car parking Bengaluru-560100, East by: Flat No.C-105, West by: Common Area, North by: Open Space and South by: Corridor.

Reserve Price: Rs.94,00,000/- (Rupees Ninety-Four Lakh Only)
Earnest Money to be Deposited: Rs.9,40,000/-
(Rupees Nine lakh Forty Thousand Only)

For auction related queries contact Union Bank of India, Bengaluru Sarjapur Road Branch, Contact No: 9108052609

Union Bank of India, S.C Road Branch,
No.71/1, Brigade Plaza SC Road, Near Anand Rao Circle, Bangalore-560009.

2. Name and address of the Borrower, Co-Applicant and Guarantor: (1) M/s. S.N Beauty Station, No.34 20 A Cross S R Street, Vivek Nagar Post Ejipura, Bangalore-560047. **Also at:** M/s. S.N Beauty Station, No.06, D Street, Jogupalya, Indiranagar, Bangalore-560038. **2. Ms.Swapna Nath** D/o Shashanka Nath, Ward No.4, Radhapur, Tripur-799254.

Amount due: Rs. 22,08,626.12 (Rupees Twenty Two Lakhs Eight Thousand Six Hundred and Twenty Six and Twelve Paisa Only) with further interest and legal charges.

Description of immovable secured assets to be Sold: All that piece and parcel of the Southern Portion of Site No.116, in Sy No.160/3, 161/1, 161/2, 161/3, 161/4, 160/2, 176, 177/2, E Katha No.150200101200302139, "Sri Padmavathi Paradise" Situated at Ballur Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District, measuring East Side 16.75 feet, west side: 16.75 feet, North Side: 40 feet and South Side: 40 feet, totally measuring 670 Sq. ft out of 1340 Sq. Ft and bounded on East by: Road, West by: Site No.93, North by: Northern portion of same site No.116, South by: Other Land.

Reserve Price: Rs.14,79,000/- (Rupees Fourteen Lakh Seventy Nine Thousand Only)
Earnest Money to be Deposited: Rs 1,47,900/-
(Rupees One Lakh Forty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Only)

For auction related queries contact Union Bank of India, S.C Road Branch, Contact No: 98630806575/ 9740334621

Union Bank of India, Ulsoor Road Branch
No.21, Ulsoor Road, Opp: Telephone Exchange, Bangalore-560042.

3. Name and address of the Borrower, Co-Applicant and Guarantor: (1) M/s Mukambika Industrial Corporation, No.12, K M Lane, S P Cross Road, Bengaluru-560002. **(2) Mrs. R D Usha Rani,** No.12, K M Lane, S P Cross Road, Bengaluru-560002. **(3) Mr. Damodar Naidu,** No.12, K M Lane, S P Cross Road, Bengaluru-560002.

Amount due: Rs. 58,37,320.10 (Rupees Fifty Eight Lakhs Thirty Seven Thousand Three Hundred and Twenty and Ten Paisa Only) with further interest and legal charges.

Description of immovable secured assets to be Sold: EMD of all that piece and parcel of the Site No.41/2, Khatha No.4/1, Subramanyapura Village, Uttarahalli measuring 780 Sqft and bounded by: East by: Private Property, West by: Site No.41/1, North by: Site No.41/3, South by: Road.

Reserve Price: Rs.63,00,000/- (Rupees Sixty-Three Lakh Only)
Earnest Money to be Deposited: Rs .6,30,000
(Rupees Six Lakh Thirty Thousand Only)

For auction related queries contact Union Bank of India, Ulsoor Road Branch Contact No: 9008555438

Date and time of E-Auction: 26.06.2025 from 12.00 PM to 05.00 P.M.
(with 10 min unlimited auto extensions)
Last date for submission of EMD: On or before the commencement of e-auction
E-auction website: https://baanknet.com

For Detailed terms and condition of the sale, please refer to the link provided in **https://baanknet.com and https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in.**
The online E-auction will be held through website: **https://baanknet.com**

Date: 24.05.2025 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place: Bangalore **Union Bank of India.**

GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

Tender Notice No.04/SE(P-WZ)/GHMC/2025-26 **Date: 24.05.2025**

Item No.	Name of work	Est. Cost
1.	Construction of 2-Lane Uni-directional flyover at NFCL junction, Banajara Hills, GHMC and Construction of 2-Lane Uni-directional underpass and 3 Lane Uni-directional flyover at TV9 Junction, Banjara Hills, GHMC - under Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC)/Turnkey Basis.	Rs. 368 Crores

Sl.No.	Events	Date and Time
1.	Start Date	27-05-2025 from 04:00 PM
2.	Pre-bid Meeting Date	04-06-2025 at 03.00 PM **Location:** O/o Chief Engineer (Projects), GHMC 6th Floor, GHMC Head Office, Tank Bund, Hyderabad.
3.	Last Date & Time for receipt of Bids	18-06-2025 upto 3:00 PM
4.	Opening of Technical Bid	18-06-2025 after 4:00 PM
5.	Opening of Price Bid	20-06-2025 after 4:00 PM

Note: The Bidders are advised to visit **www.tender.telangana.gov.in** to download Bid Document and EPC project Tender Drawings. Any Queries can be addressed to **sesrdppwz@gmail.com.**
Address of the officer concerned Sri G.Sree Lakshmi, SE(P-WZ), Superintending Engineer (Projects - WZ), GHMC, Tank Bund Road, Hyderabad.
Further details can be seen at 'e' procurement **https://tender.telangana.gov.in.**

Sd/- **Superintending Engineer (Projects-WZ), GHMC.**

DIPR R.O. No.2434-PP/CL/Advt/1/2025-26, Dt: 24/05/2025

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS VARANASI-221004

Bid No.: E-08/2025-26 **E-Tenders** **Date : 24-05-2025**

E-Tenders are invited for and on behalf of the President of India for supply of following items. Only e-offer will be acceptable for which vendors must have class III Digital Signature and registration on **IREPS.** The details of tenders are in the following sequence:- **S.No., Tender No., (Due Date), Description and Quantity.**
1. 06251748, (24/06/2025), Complete Auxiliary Cubicle HB1, (Part No. 29171180), 470 Set. **2.** 06251749, (30/06/2025), Complete Auxiliary Cubicle HB2, (Part No. 29171192), 422 Set. **3.** 06250176, (09/07/2025), Crew Fan, (Part No. 29470080), 2813 Nos. **4.** 06250003C, (22/07/2025), LED Based Twin Beam Head Light, (Part No. 29611908), 1535 Set. **5.** 06250003A (20/06/2025), Pantograph with Throttle Valve, (Part No. 29880038), 571 Nos. **6.** 06251848, (16/06/2025), Primary Current Transformer, (Part No. 29690043), 552 Nos. **7.** 04251086, (17/06/2025), Protection Plate Assly to (PL.No. 29180053), 676 Set. **8.** 04251014, (29/07/2025), Blind Installation to (PL.No. 29170059), 692 Set. **9.** 01251257, (25/06/2025), SS Pipe Fittings for Bogie Piping, (PL.No. 29230380), 587 Set. **10.** 10251041, (07/07/2025), Lube Oil Pump Assembly (Pressure and Piston Cooling, Part No. 16060027), 545 Nos. **11.** 08251000, Open Tender, (13/06/2025), Damper For WAG9, (PL.No. 29040012), 388 Set. **12.** 08251006, Open Tender, (18/06/2025), Key Multiplier-1 For M/C Compartment, (PL.No. 29388004), 647 Set. **13.** 08251005A, Open Tender, (23/06/2025), Key Multiplier-1 For Traction Compartment, (PL.No. 29387991), 673 Set. **14.** 08251026, Open Tender, (17/06/2025), Elastic Ring, (PL.No. 29100010), 2748 Nos. **15.** 08251001A, Open Tender, (24/06/2025), Suspension Tube Bearing for WAG-9/WAP-7, (PL.No. 29030110), 3886 Set. **16.** 08251031A, Open Tender, (07/07/2025), All Steel Lock Nut, (PL.No. 29310088), 676 Set. **17.** 08251023, Global Tender, (18/06/2025), Spring Brush Holder Clip, (PL.No. 17410095), 1017 Nos. **18.** E-03, G.T./Corrigendum/Tender No. 10241360 Detector ASM, 01, (1) This Tender Opening 04/06/2025. Instead of 23/05/2025. For details of above Tenders are available on Website **www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in** and **www.ireps.gov.in.**

P.R./BLW/S-08 **PCMM.**

/blwvaranasi "website:- blw.indianrailways.gov.in"

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed that, our Client is intending to purchase the Schedule Property mentioned below from its Owner, M. Krishna Reddy, S/o late Munivenkata Reddy, Residing at No.158, "Keerthi Nivas", BEML Layout, 6th Stage, Bangalore – 560066. It is represented by the Owner that he has acquired the Schedule Property in terms of Sale Deed dated 03.04.2006 executed by Thammaiah Reddy and others registered as Document No. BAS-1-00174/2006-07, Book-I stored in C.D No. BASD232, in office of the Senior Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore. It is represented, further, by the Owner that he has clear, valid and marketable title to the Schedule Property and it is free from all encumbrances.

If any person/s who claim/s any right, title or interest of any nature in or any lien, charge or enforceable right in relation to the said Schedule Property and/or any objections of any nature to the transaction should lodge such claims and/or objections in writing to the undersigned together with supporting documents within fifteen days hereof, failing which it will be presumed that no valid claims or objections subsist and our Client would proceed to complete the transaction with aforesaid Owners subject to compliance with other statutory and legal formalities.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Residentially converted land being portion of Sy No. 40/2, situated at Thubarahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, measuring about 13 Guntas, presently within BBMP jurisdiction bearing Municipal Khata No. 698/Sy No.40/2, Thubarahalli, Ward No.85-Doddanakundi, Bangalore and bounded on as under:

EAST BY : Land bearing Survey No.42/2;
WEST BY : Land bearing Survey No. 54;
NORTH BY : Remaining portion of Survey No. 40/2;
SOUTH BY : Land bearing Survey No. 42;

ADINATH NARDE Adinath Narde and Revathy Associates,
Advocates, No.101, First Floor, "The Presidency",
Old No. 1, New No.82, St. Mark's Road,
Bangalore-01, Email: adinathnarde@yahoo.co.in
Mobile : 9448385586

Bangalore
23.05.2025

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)

KALYANANAGAR-II BRANCH
No.248, Ground Floor, 10th Main, Outer Ring Road, 1st Block Kalyan Nagar, Bangalore-560043.

(Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Property)

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Property under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/ physical (Strike whichever is not applicable) possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Kalyananagar-II Branch, Bangalore** of the **Canara Bank,** will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and " Whatever there is"** on **17.06.2025, 11.00 A.M. to 1.00 P.M.** for recovery of below mentioned amount.

E-AUCTION DATE: 17.06.2025

Borrower(s): Sri. B Anjanappa Girish (Borrower and Mortgagor) S/o Anjanappa, No.387, 19th Main Road, 1st Block, Raajaji Nagar, Bengaluru-560010.

Total liabilities: Rs.3,86,384.36 (Rupees Three lakh Eighty Six Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Four and Paise Thirty Six Only) as on **23.05.2025** plus further interest @ 11.05% pa compounded monthly from **24.05.2025.**

Reserve Price: Rs 7,30,000/-. EMD: Rs 73,000/-. Earnest Money Deposit shall be deposited on or before: **16.06.2025 up to 4.00 PM.**

Description of the Immovable Assests: All that piece and parcel of Residential Flat No.B29-304, With super Built up area of 361.85 sq ft, 3rd Floor, Block-29, Alur Phase-1, Dasanpura Hobli, Huskur Main Road, Bangalore North Taluk-562123. Boundaries of the property: East: Alur Block 29/303, West: Alur Block 29/305, North: Alur Block 29/301, South: Passage.

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank. For further details contact **Mr. Pramod Kumar Singh,** Authorized Officer, Regional Office North, **Canara Bank. (Ph.No 6366371373),** email id **roblrnrec@canarabank.com** OR the service provider **M/s PSB Alliance (BAANKNET) Online https://baanknet.com/ (Contact No. 7046612345/ 6354910172/ 8291220220/9892219848/ 8160205051, Email:support.ebkray@psballiance.com/ support.ebkray@procure247.com)** during office hours on any working day.

Date : 24.05.2025 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place: Bengaluru **Canara Bank**

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Ms. Malavika Sarukkai, residing at: Dharini, 29, 2nd Seaward Road, Valmiki Nagar, Thiruvanmiyur, Chennai - 600 041, Tamil Nadu, India, at present at No.1104, Prestige Exotica, Tulip Block, No. 3, Cunningham Crescent, Bangalore 560052, hereby notify that I have misplaced the following original documents executed in my favour and pertaining to apartment No. 509 on the fifth floor of Parkside Retirement Homes, Devanahalli Town, Bangalore Rural district and same are not found/traced yet.

Sl No.	Particulars
1.	Agreement to Sell dated 25th September 2015 executed by C V Properties (Bangalore) Private Limited and BCV Developers Private Limited
2.	Construction Agreement dated 25th September 2015 executed by BCV Developers Private Limited.

Any person or persons finding the aforesaid original documents may please inform me and handover the same to me at any of the aforesaid address.

Place: Bangalore Malavika Sarukkai
Date: 23rd May 2025 Mob:9840032263

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521

No. CEE/Tr(Op)Z/KLB/SEE/AEE-2/2025-26/ 1633 **Date : 23.05.2025**

TENDER NOTIFICATION

(THROUGH KARNATAKA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited, Operations Zone KPTCL Kalaburagi invites tenders from the eligible bidders against Bid Enquiry No.: **KPTCL/2025-26/KLB/SERVICE_INDENT001, Dtd : 22.05.2025** for **"Survey for conversion of 400kV RTPS-BTPS S/C Line Twin with Moose Line for 153Kms by DC Line with Quad Moose Conductor in 400kV TLM Toranagallu Division".**

The Bids will be received through E-Procurement mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject tenders can be got by logging on to **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink **'E Procurement KPTCL'** or to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 26.05.2025.** Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Chief Engineer, Electricity,
Transmission (Operations) Zone, 1st Floor , "PRASARANA BHAVAN",
KPTCL, Sedam Road, Kalaburagi.- 585 105

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed that, our Client is intending to purchase the Schedule Property mentioned below from its Owner M/s. Aashish Developers, a Partnership Firm, having its Office at No. 967, First Floor, Rajapalya, Hoodi, Whitefield Main Road, Mahadevapura Post, Bangalore - 560 048, represented by its Managing Partner Mr. Manish Garg. It is represented by the Partners that, the Firm has acquired the Schedule Property in terms of Sale Deed dated 14.11.2022 executed by A.Ashok Raj which is registered as Document No.BNS-1-14082-2022-23, Book1, stored in CD No.BNSD1658 in the Office of the Sub Registrar, Banasawadi Bangalore. It is represented, further, by the Partners of the Firm that that, the Firm has clear, valid and marketable title to the Schedule Property and it is free from all encumbrances.

If any person/s who claim/s any right, title or interest of any nature in or any lien, charge or enforceable right in relation to the said Schedule Property and/or any objections of any nature to the transaction should lodge such claims and/or objections in writing to the undersigned together with supporting documents within fifteen days hereof, failing which it will be presumed that no valid claims or objections subsist and our Client would proceed to complete the transaction with aforesaid Owners subject to compliance with other statutory and legal formalities.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Residentially converted land being Sy.No.54/2 measuring 8 guntas situated at Thubarahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk presently bearing BBMP Municipal No.2406, Sy.No.54/2, Ward No.85-Doddanakundi, Bangalore and bounded on as under:

East by : Land bearing Sy.No.42
West by: Road and land in Sy No.55
North by : Land in Sy.No.54/1
South by : Land in Sy.No.54/3

ADINATH NARDE Adinath Narde and Revathy Associates,
Advocates, No.101, First Floor, "The Presidency",
Old No. 1, New No.82, St. Mark's Road,
Bangalore-01, Email: adinathnarde@yahoo.co.in
Mobile : 9448385586

Bangalore
23.05.2025

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)

HSR Layout Branch
Avani Arcade", L-1135, 17th Cross, 80 Feet Road, Sector-7, HSR Layout, Bengaluru-560102.
Email : cb2673@canarabank.com

DEMAND NOTICE [SECTION 13(2)] TO BORROWERS/ GUARANTORS/MORTGAGORS

NOTICE ISSUED UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer **of Canara Bank, HSR Layout Branch** had issued Demand Notice under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Security Interest Act 2002 by Registered Post with Acknowledgment Due (RPAD) to the addresses furnished to the Bank as mentioned below. Since the notice has not been acknowledged and returned due to non-availability of addresses at the said addresses / due to evading of service of the notices sent by RPAD, notice could not be served. The contents of the said notice are mentioned herein below.

1. Name and Address of the Borrowers / Co-Borrowers/ Mortgagors /Guarantors: (1) M/S NHS Industries Regd Office, No 4-3 , 1st Cross, Bhuvanappa Layout, Bengaluru-560029. **(2) M/S NHS Industries Unit :** Plot No. IP (19) P-2 Kudumalakunte-561208 KIADB Industrial Area Phase 1 , Gowribidanur, Chikkaballapura Distrrict . **(3) Sri Bhargav Reddy N S** S/o N H Shiva Shankara Reddy, **(4) Sri N H Shiva Shankara Reddy, Both are residing at:** H No.530, Ground Floor 8th Cross, J P Nagar 3rd Phase Bengaluru -560078. **(5) Smt N Sujathamma** W/o N H Shiva shankara Reddy, H Nagasandra-561208, Kasaba Hobli , Gowribidanur (T).

[Details of the credit facility/ies availed by the Borrower]

Sl. No.	Loan No	Nature of Loan/Limit	Date of sanction	Amount	Liability With Interest as on Date	Rate of Interest
1.	2673256 000104	Working Capital OD Loan.	17.11.2016	Rs. 1,50,00,000/-	Rs. 1,53,80,894.78	14.35%+ 2% penal Interest
2.	2673766 000002	MSME Term Loan	23.03.2016	Rs. 9,55,00,000/-	Rs. 3,99,68,901.51	12.60%+ 2% penal Interest
3.	2673766 000012	MSME Term Loan	16.05.2018	Rs. 1,05,00,000/-	Rs. 44,54,414.31	12.90%+2% penal Interest
4.	2673746 000004	Working Capital Term Loan	29.11.2019	Rs. 2,00,00,000/-	Rs. 1,02,89,331.31	14.65%+2% penal Interest
5.	1700019 57976	GECL (1.0 EXTENSION)	12.11.2021	Rs. 1,50,00,000/-	Rs. 89,67,694.43	9.25%+2% penal Interest

Total Liability Amount: Rs. 7,90,61,236.34 (Rupees Seven Crores Ninety Lakhs Sixty One thousand Two Hundred Thirty Six and Paise Thirty Four Only) together with further interest and incidental expenses and costs.

NPA Date : 17.05.2025 **Demand Notice Dated : 19.05.2025**

Details of security assets:

Movable : Hypothecation of Stocks and Book Debts, Hypothecation of Plant and Machinery. **Name of the title Holder : NHS Industries.**

Immovable : (1) All that piece and parcel of the plot No IP-19-P2. in the Gowribidanur Industrial Area 1st Phase Comprises in Sy Nos parts of 208 and 209 within the limits of Kudumalakunte Village, Kasaba Hobli, Gowribidanur Taluk, Chikkaballapura District measuring 3809 sq mts and bounded on : East By : Plot No. IP-19 part -1, West by : Plot No.IP-8 Part, North by : KIADB, South by : Plot No.IP-18.

Name of the title Holder : Lease Cum Sale Agreement.

(2) All that the piece and parcel of the residential site bearing NO 530, having BBMP Municipal No 530, BBMP PID No.57-156-530, situated at 8th cross road, 3rd Phase , JP Nagar, Bangalore South Taluk, presently within the limits of BBMP ward No 57, J P Nagara, Bangalore measuring East to West 13.72 mtrs and North to South 17.29+17.21/2 together with ground and first floor residential building and bounded on: East By : Site No 529, West by : Site No 531, North by: Road, South by : Site No 546.

Name of the title Holder : N H Shiva Shankara Reddy.

(3) All that piece and parcel of the Residential Property Bearing Site No.91 , Having BBMP PID No.67.8.91, New PID No.151-W0071-80, In the Layout Formed by the BDA Situated at Koramangala 6th Block Extension , Bangalore presently with in the limits of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike measuring East to West 12.00+13.90/2 mtrs and North to South:16.70 mtrs and bounded on: East By : Site No 92, West by : Road, North by: Site No.110, South by : Road.

Name of the title Holder : N H Shiva Shankara Reddy.

You are here by called upon to pay **Canara Bank,** within a period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, the respective amount mentioned here above, failing which **Canara Bank** will take necessary action under the provisions of the said Act, against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the Borrowers and the Guarantors. The powers available to **Canara Bank** under the Act include (i) power to take possession of the secured assets of the Borrowers / Guarantors / Mortgagors including the rights to transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale for realising secured assets and any transfer of secured assets by **Canara Bank** shall vest in the transferee rights in or in relation to, the secured asset transferred as if the transfer has been made by you. In terms of the provisions of section 13(13) of the said Act, you are hereby prohibited from transferring, either by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of your business), any of the secured assets as referred to in the Demand Notice and also Hypothecated / Mortgaged to the bank without prior written consent of the Bank. The notice is issued in terms of Section (13)2 of the said Act.

Date : 24.05.2025 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place : Bengaluru **Canara Bank**

BEFORE THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II AT BANGALORE

Original Application No.1080/2024

STATE BANK OF INDIA, SARB, J .C. Road, Bangalore **...Applicant**

Versus

M/s. Viltek LED & Solar System Private Limited & Others ...Defendant

SUMMONS /NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF RECOVERY OF DEBTS AND BANKRUPTCY ACT 1993, BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

To, Defendant No. 2 & 3:

Sri N. Vishwanath S/o. Sri H. V. Nagaraj Jetty, Aged about 52 Years.

Smt. B. N. Kowsalya, W/o. Sri N. Vishwanath, Aged about 50 years

Both are R/at: No. 243, 11th Main Road , RBI Layout, J. P. Nagar, 7th Phase, Bangalore - 560 078.

Whereas, the Applicant has instituted an Application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 against you for recovery of a sum of **Rs.1,78,52,381/-** (Rupees One Crore Seventy Eight Lakhs Fifty Two Thousand Three Hundred and Eighty One Only) mentioned therein together with current and future interest and other reliefs. The above defendant is therefore, hereby directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorised agents in support of their defense within 30 days from the date of publication or on **25.06.2025 at 10.30 am** as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal, on this the **13.05.2025**

Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -II Bangalore

Advocate for Applicant Bank
Mrs. Malini Vinay

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my client intend to purchase the below mentioned Schedule Property from its lawful owners viz., **1)SMT.ABHILASH GUPTA @ ABHILASHA GUPTA,** aged about 52 years, W/o.Sri.Manoj Gupta, and **2)SRI.MANOJ GUPTA,** aged about 57 years, S/o.Sri.R.D.Gupta, Both are residing at No.781, Manobhilasha, Sector-15, Part-2, Gurgaon, Farrukhnagar Gurgaon, HARYANA-122 001(Today camped in Bengaluru). The Owners represent that they are the absolute owners and have good marketable right, title and interest therein and there are no other persons have any right or claim over the Schedule Property.

Any person or persons, Banks, Financial institutions etc., having any valid right, title interest or any claim over the Schedule Property or any portions of it in any manner may with documentary evidence lodge their objection/claim/s within 7 days from the date of this public notice with the undersigned, if no valid objections are received within the stipulated date, my client shall proceed on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with regard to the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of site bearing No.17, **New BBMP E PID No.2463822674,** BBMP Ward No.192, Begur Ward, BBMP Katha Property No.1679/1700/17, Old House List No.17, Assessment No.1700, formed in residential converted land bearing Sy.No.109, 122/1 and 122/2, (converted from agricultural purpose to non-agricultural residential purpose vide., Official memorandum bearing No.B.DIS.ALN.(S)S.R.130/1994-95, dt:10-02-1995, issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore), situated at Kammanahalli Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, measuring East to West:60 feet and North to South:40 feet, totally measuring 2400 Sq.ft.,and bounded on:

EAST BY : Road
WEST BY : House List No.22
NORTH BY : House List No.18
SOUTH BY : House List No.16

SD/- **K.VENKATA SUDHEER,** ADVOCATE
NO.548/51/1, 1ST FLOOR GARUTHMAN PARK, ANDAL TEMPLE STREET
(BEHIND R.V.TEACHER'S COLLEGE)
R.V.ROAD, BASAVANAGUDI
BANGALORE – 560 004
MOBILE: 9845682098

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TAMIL NADU MEDICINAL PLANT FARMS & HERBAL MEDICINE CORPORATION LTD.,

Tampcol
(A Government of Tamil Nadu Undertaking)
Regd. Office: Anna Hospital Campus, Arumbakkam, Chennai-600 106
Phone: 044-26216696 E-mail : tampcolho@gmail.com

E-TENDER NOTICE Ref. No.210/A2/Estt/2025

E-Tender are invited through two cover system from the eligible bidders for the Provision of Manpower & Securities to Tampcol Head Office, Factories at Alathur, Pudukkottai II Unit, and Pharmacy Unit @ AAGHIM sales counters @ Chennai Head Office, Kottar & Palayamkottai for the period of three years from **01.07.2025** to **30.06.2028.**

Eligibility of the tenderer and other conditions are stipulated in the Bid document. Complete e-tender documents can be viewed and downloaded at free of cost from Government tender website **"https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app".** EMD to be paid & the bids to be submitted through e-tender portal only.

DIPR/2555/TENDER/2025 **General Manager (FAC)**

KERALA SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROJECT (KSWMP)
LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Kerala Solid Waste Management Project (KSWMP), invites proposals against a request for proposal for hiring **"Communication Consultant for Implementing Communication Activities".** RFP along with Tems of Reference is available at www.kswmp.org and https://etenders.kerala.gov.in. Interested and eligible Consultants shall submit their Proposals on or before 16:00 hours, on 20th June, 2025 through the e-procurement portal of the Government of Kerala at https://etenders.kerala.gov.in,. A pre-bid conference will be held via online mode at 03.00 PM on 30 May 2025. Link will be available in the website.

Sd/-,
For, **Project Director**

Upper Ground Floor, Trans Towers, Vazhuthacaud,Thiruvananthapuram -14, Kerala, India, Telephone: 0471-2333011; E-Mail: tenderkswmp@gmail.com, Website: www.kswmp.org D3/413/2025/I&PRD

यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Union Bank of India

G.T. Road Branch, Guntur (33020)
Dr. No. 25-16-27, Opposite ITC Ltd, Srinivasa Towers, Ward 25, Srinivasa Rao Pet, GT Road, Guntur-522003, Andhra Pradesh.
Email: ubin0533025@unionbankofindia.bank

NOTICE TO THE BORROWER INFORMING ABOUT SALE (30 DAYS NOTICE)
RULE 8 (6) OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002

BORROWER(S): 1. M/S.AMJANISUTA POLYMERS INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED, Unit Add.: 11/2, Serinarasannapalem,Bapulapadu Mandal,Opp Delta Sugars Ltd ,Hanuman Junction, Krishna District – 521105, **Regd. Office Add.:** Flat No.1220, 12th Floor, Mapple Block, Raintree Park, Dwaraka Krishna, Namburu Village, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh-522508, **GUARANTOR(S)/ MORTGAGOR(S): 2). Mrs. Chekuri Sridevi,W/o. Raja Sekhar,** D No. 9-175, Chekuri Vari Veedhi, near Puranam Dimma, Palakoderu, West Godavari-534210, **3). Mrs.Appikonda Ramya Krishna Naidu, D/o.Rama Krishna Naidu,** Flat No.A006, Renaissance Prospero, Ballary Road, Byatarayanapura, Bangalore North, Sahakaranagar PO, Bangalore, Karnataka-560092, **4). Mr. Kallepalli Phani Kumar Raju, S/o.Prudhvi Raju,** 8-65, Bapulapadu, Hanuman Junction, Krishna Dist, Andhra Pradesh-521105, **5). Estate of deceased Mrs. Kallepalli Vijaya Lakshmi represented by (legal heirs): 5(i). Uppalapati Durga Bhavani D/o** Kallepalli Vijaya Lakshmi Plot No: 41, Flat No:303, Sri Nidhi Arcade, Nizampet, KV Rangareddy, Telangana -500090. **5(ii). Lakkamraju Sree Lakshmi D/o Kallepalli Vijaya Lakshmi** Plot No: 41, Flat No:303, Sri Nidhi Arcade, Nizampet, KV Rangareddy, Telangana -500090. **5(iii). Mr. Kallepalli Phani Kumar Raju, S/o.Prudhvi Raju,** 8-65, Bapulapadu, Hanuman Junction, Krishna Dist, Andhra Pradesh-521105, **5(iv). Mr. Kallepalli Bhanu Prasad Raju, S/o.Prudhvi Raju,** Bapulapadu, Hanuman Junction, Krishna Dist, Andhra Pradesh-521105, **5.(V). Mrs. Kallepalli Padmavathi W/o Late Prudhvi Raju,** Bapulapadu, Hanuman Junction, Krishna Dist, Andhra Pradesh-521105.

Sub: Sale of property belonging to M/s. Amjanisuta Polymers India Private Limited represented by its Managing Director and the properties belong to Mr. Kallepalli Phani Kumar Raju and Mrs. Kallepalli Vijaya Lakshmi(late) for realization of amount due to Bank under the SARFAESI Act, 2002.

Union Bank of India, GT Road Guntur branch(33020), Opp ITC, GT Road, Srinivasa Rao Pet, Guntur, the secured creditor, caused a **demand notice dated 06-01-2025** under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, calling upon you to pay the dues within the time stipulated therein. Since you failed to comply the said notice within the period stipulated, the Authorised Officer, has taken **possession** of the secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act read with Rule 8 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on **17-04-2025.**

Even after taking **possession** of the secured asset, you have not paid the amount due to bank. As such, it has become necessary to sell the below mentioned property by holding public e-auction after 30 days from the date of receipt of this notice through online mode. The date and time of e-auction along with the Reserve Price of the property and the details of the service provider, in which the E-Auction to be conducted, shall be informed to you separately.

Therefore, if you pay the amount due to the bank along with subsequent interest, costs, charges and expenses incurred by bank before the date of publication of sale notice, no further action shall be taken for sale of the property and you can redeem your property as stipulated in sec. 13 (8) of the Act.

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Property No.1: All that piece and parcel of land & Industrial unit consisting of RCC roof G+2 building, GI sheet & ACC sheet roof shed/s situated at Serinarasanna Palem village & Panchayat area, Serinarasanna Palem village R.S.No.11/2, L.P No.189, Door No.3-44, site an extent of Ac.4-40 cents out of it an extent of Ac.2-07 cents or equals to 10018.8 Sq.yards , Near Swarnalatha Spintex, Kanumolu Sub-District, Bapulapadu Mandal, Krishna District, being **bounded by (as per Doc): East:** Land belongs to Pusunuru Venkata Ratnam, **South:** Land belongs to Surapaneni Vanaja and others, **West:** Road, **North:** Land belongs to Adapa Leela Krishna in this number. **(Within these boundaries an extent of 10018.8 Sq.yards or equal to 8376.71 Sq.mtrs site and RCC roof G+2 building & GI Sheeted Shed, ACC Shed/s and Plant and Machineries, Furniture and Fixtures and appurtenant etc.)**

Property No.2: Vacant Site to an extent of 2129.6 Sq.yds, Nearest Door No.8-58, situated at Survey No.156/1 and as per the Sub-divisional re-survey No.156/1A1, Krishna District, Kanumole Sub-District, Bapulapadu Mandal, Bapulapadu Village, belongs to **Ms. Kallepalli Vijaya Lakshmi. Boundaries (as per doc No:47/2023 Dt:30.12.2022 SRO Kanumole): East:** Item No.2 property as per D schedule of the document belongs to K. Phani Kumar, **South:** National Highway road, **West:** Item No.2 as per C schedule of the document belongs to K Bhanu Prasad, **North:** Irrigation canal. **(Within these boundaries an extent of 2129.6 Sq Yards)**

Property No.3: Vacant Site to an extent of 1790.8 Sq.yrds, Nearest Door No. 8-58, situated at Survey No.156/1 and as per the sub-divisional resurvey No. 156/1A1, Krishna District, Kanumole Sub District, Bapulapadu Mandal, Bapulapadu Village, belongs to **Mr.K.Phani Kumar Raju. Boundaries: East:** Property belongs to Kagga Mahalakshmudu, **South:** Property of Mekala Mahendranath, **Again East:** Property of Mekala Mahendranath, **Again South:** NH-16 Service road, **West:** Item No.2 as per A schedule of the document belongs to K Vijaya Lakshmi, **North:** Irrigation canal. **(Within these boundaries an extent of 1790.8 Sq.yds).**

Place: Guntur **Sd/- Chief Manager & Authorised Officer**
Date: 17-05-2025 **Union Bank of India, G.T. Road Branch, Guntur.**

Office of the Assistant Conservator of Fortest, Bandipur Sub Division, Bandipur

ACF/BSD/Out source/Tender/CR-1/2025-26

Ph:-08229-236043
E-Mail:- acfbandipur3@gmail.com
Dated 20-05-2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE
E-PROCURMENT

This is to inform the public that as per Karnataka Public Procurement Transparency Act 2000, tenders are invited through Karnataka Public Transparency Portal from qualified contractors/Firms for Supply of Man Powers to Day-to-Day Protection and Tourism Works on Out source Based to Bandipur Tiger Reserve during 2025-26 amount of work and the EMD is maintioned as below.

Sl. No	Locations	Qty	Amount (In Lakh)	EMD (In Lakh)
1.	Supply of Man Powers to Day-to-Day Protection and Tourism Works on Out source Based to Bandipur Tiger Reserve during 2025-26 a) Skilled Labourers - 374 Nos b) Semi skilled Labourers - 1 No c) Unskilled Labourers 60 No	435 Nos	1276.075	15.000

The last date submission of tenders is 04-06-2025 at 4.00 PM. For further information and conditions regarding the work may be obtained at the portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in and at the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/-
Assistant Conservator of Forests,
Bandipur Sub Division
Bandipur

DIPR:CHANAGAR: 93:2025-26

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client, SMT. ANITHA GIRIDHAR, W/o Sri. S. Giridhar, Residing at No. 550/03, 1st Main Road, Garuthman Park, Basavanagudi, Behind RV Teachers College, Bengaluru-560004, has intends purchase the below mentioned "Schedule property" and intends to get sale' agreement and sale deed from its owner i.e. SMT. GOWRAMMA, D/o Sri. Chikka Erappa, aged about 53 years, Residing at Hanumanthegowdapalya, Srinivasapura, Yentaganahalli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District. Any person/s, entity, firms, societies claiming to have any right, title, interest, benefit, claim or demand in, or to the schedule property and or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, gift, lease, tenancy, license, assignment, mortgage, charge, lien, encumbrance, inheritance, bequest, easement, possession, maintenance, order/ decree/ judgment of any court, agreement or otherwise however to the schedule property shall file his/ her/ its/ their objections/claims with true copies of documentary proof in support thereof, to the under signed, at the address given below within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, my client will proceed with the sale transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Agricultural land property bearing Old Sy. No.89, New Sy. No.295, measuring 1 Acre 18 Guntas situated at Srinivasapura Village, Kasaba-2 Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District and bounded on:

EAST BY: Government Property,
WEST BY: Government Property,
NORTH BY: Yalachegere Border,
SOUTH BY : Government Road:

(K.B. NAVEEN KUMAR) Advocate
No. 46/01, 2nd Floor, Brindavan Complex, 4th cross, Sampige Road, Malleshwaram, Bangalore-560003
Ph: 9591378500